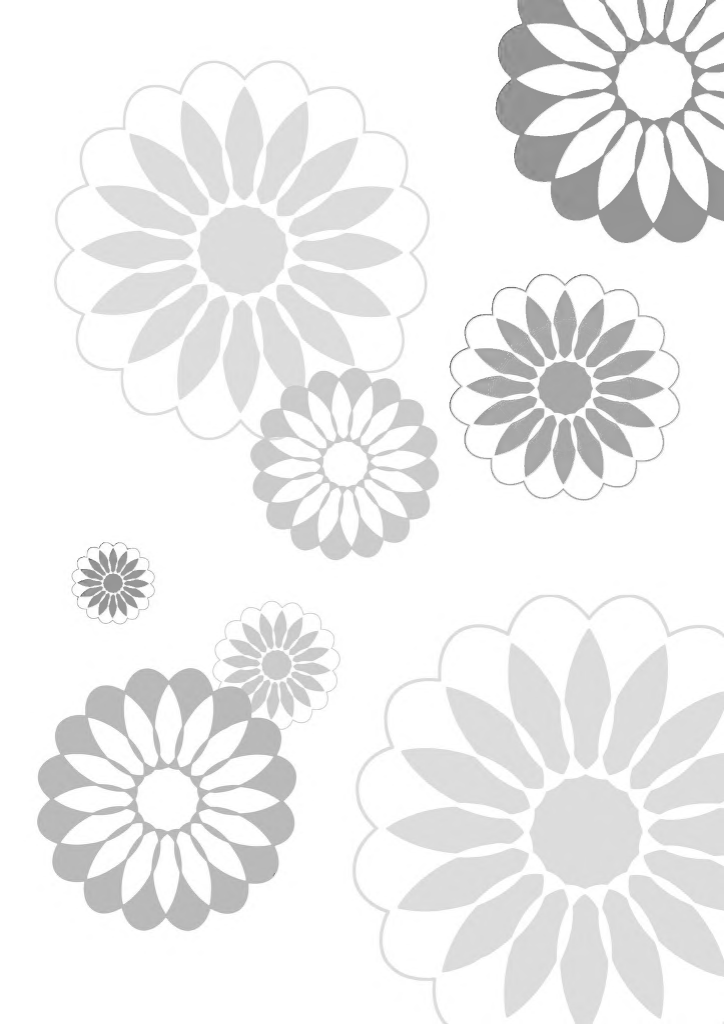
ああっ女神さまっ
33
藤島康介
KOSUKE FUJISHIMA
Oh My Goddess!



Oh My Goddess!

ああっ女神さまっ 33

STORY AND ART BY
Kosuke Fujishima

TRANSLATION BY
Christopher Lewis AND Dana Lewis

LETTERING AND TOUCH-UP BY
Susie Lee AND Betty Dong
WITH Tom2K

DARK HORSE MANGA™

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CHAPTER 207

What I Want to Make

UUH...
...G'MORN-IN', GIRLS...
MM...

...I SUPPOSE MORI-SATO'S STILL ASLEEP.
THEY'RE SURE UP EARLY...
HUH?
IT'S MORNING, MORISATO !!
RISE AND SHINE !!

WHA-
WHA-
WHAT
--?!
WHA...

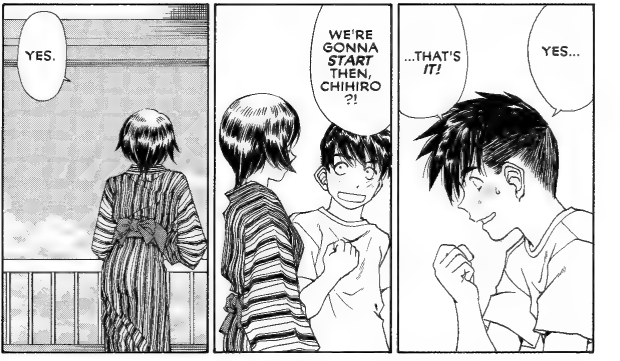
...MORN-
ING.
OH...
UWAHH!
UH...
WHAT IS IT...?
YOU'RE... YOU'RE AWFUL...
...HAVE YOU NO MORALS ...?

DID WE DO SOME-THING WRONG?
WELL...
MAYBE LAST NIGHT'S KARAOKE WAS TOO MUCH FOR US...
...WE FELL ASLEEP THE MOMENT WE GOT BACK...
I CAN'T BLAME HER, SEEING SUCH A SCENE...
I MEAN...
...THROWING A DRUNKEN PARTY... WITHOUT TELLING ME!!
huh?
UM...
...WAIT A MINUTE...

I WANTED TO BOUNCE BACK FASTER.
...WHEN'D YOU CHUG THESE?
REALLY ?!
CHIHIRO, NEXT TIME WE'LL INVITE YOU RIGHT AWAY.

THE MAIN POINT--
--THERE WAS A POINT?
OH...
NOW THEN, LET'S GET BACK TO THE *MAIN POINT* OF THIS RETREAT.
OKAY, IT'S A DATE.
THEN, NEVER MIND! ❤
THAT'S IT..?
NO, NOT A WORD.
...HADN'T I TOLD YOU?
...WHEN YOU FIRST CAME TO WHIRL-WIND?
MORISATO, DO YOU REMEMBER WHAT I SAID...

I'M GOING TO QUIT THE TEAM, AND START MAKING THE KIND OF BIKES I WANT TO MAKE.
HUH?
THAT'S WHAT I WANTED TO DO, TOO!


YES.
WE'RE GONNA START THEN, CHIHIRO ?!
...THAT'S IT!
YES...

WELL, YOU SEE...
...SO, WHAT SORT OF BIKE DO YOU WANT TO BUILD?
...
IT'S, LIKE...
BE SERIOUS, HERE...
ONE THAT'LL GO AT MACH TWO!
ONE THAT I CAN FOLD UP AND PUT IN MY POCKET!
YEAH! WAIT AND SEE!!
WE ARE SERIOUS!

BLEND-
ING
WITH
THE
GREEN...
OCEAN
AND
SKY...
HEADING
TOWARDS
THE
BLUE...
MY
HEART
LEAPS...
APPROACH-
ING
THE
CORNER
AND
MY
BODY
SLASHES
THROUGH
SPACE
THE
TIRES
KICK
THE
EARTH

MY THEME IS...
ME?
--WHAT ABOUT YOU, CHIHIRO?
OH... UM--
WHAT'S WRONG?

...ECSTASY.

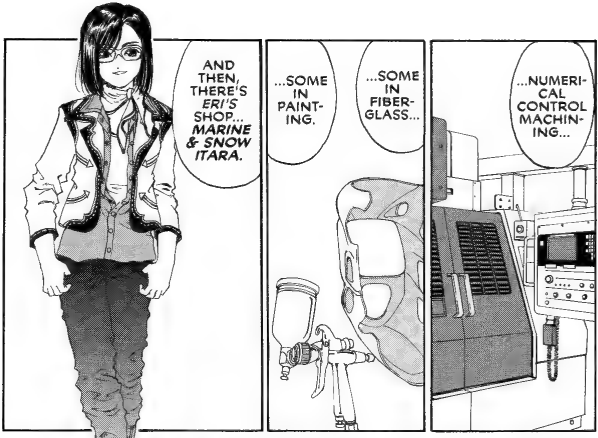
..."EC-STASY"?

IS THAT...
SHIMEI
WHAT I'VE GOT MY EYE ON...

I'M THINKING OF USING THE SAME ENGINE.
IT *IS*. TWO-STROKE, THREE-CYLINDER, 1297cc...
LOOKS PRETTY POWERFUL...
156 HORSE-POWER, JUST TUNED NORMALLY.
WHOA. *156* HORSE-POWER...

heh heh heh...
BUT HOW WILL YOU GET THE ENGINE?
...ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY-SIX?!
IS THAT NOT ECSTASY?
YOU DON'T NEED TO SPELL IT OUT.
HEY, ERI--!
...I'VE GOT IT COVERED.
GOSH, NEVER HEARD OF MODESTY, HAVE YOU, CHIHIRO?
IT'S READY.

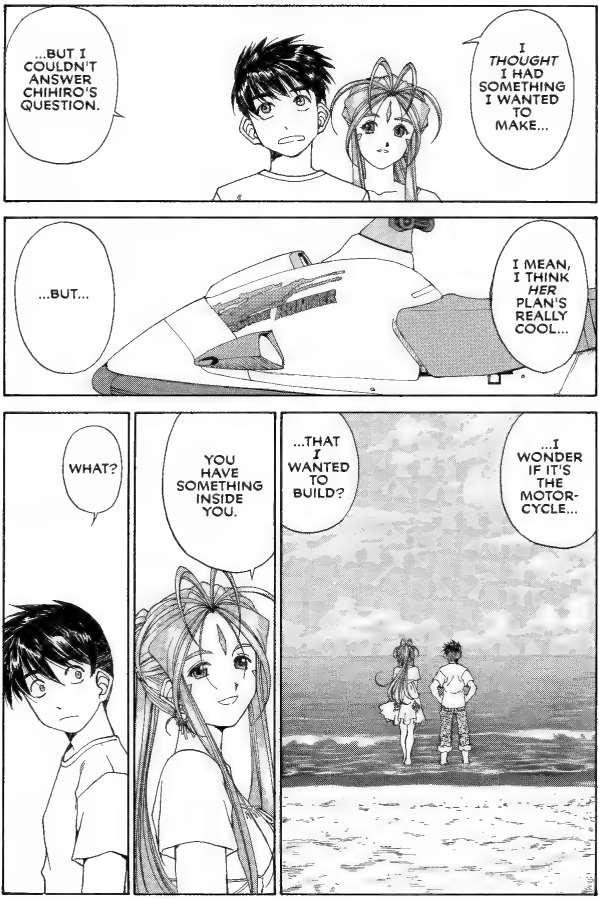
...WELDING...
...FIXING BIKES...
MY OLD CLASSMATES WORK ALL OVER THIS TOWN...
THAT'S WHY I CHOSE IT FOR OUR RETREAT.
THIS IS WHERE I COME FROM.
...SO IT'S ONLY, umm, 110 HORSEPOWER.
UNFORTUNATELY, IT'S AN OLDER MODEL...

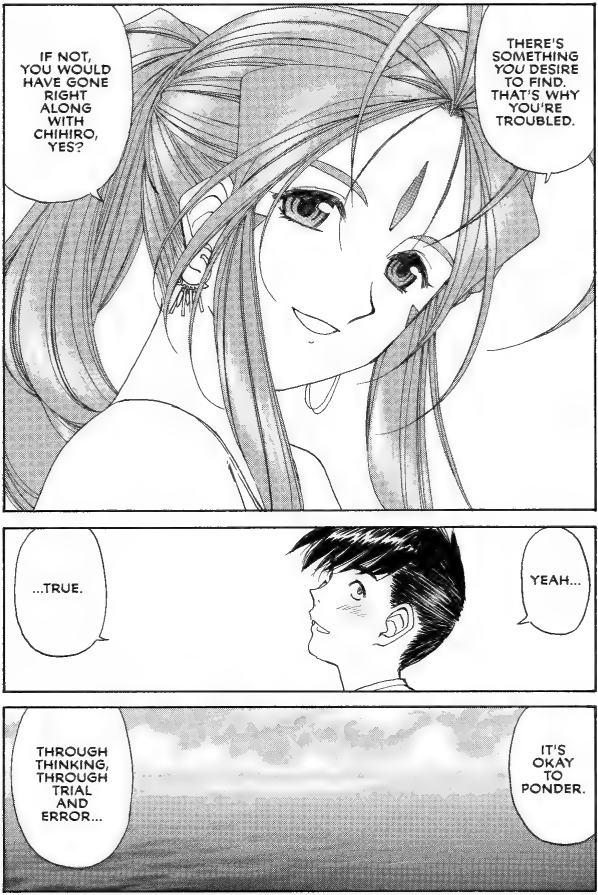

AND THEN, THERE'S ERI'S SHOP... MARINE & SNOW ITARA.
...SOME IN PAINT-ING.
...SOME IN FIBER-GLASS...
...NUMERI-CAL CONTROL MACHIN-ING...

...THIS DOESN'T HAVE A TRANS-MISSION, RIGHT?
BUT, WAIT...
ISN'T IT?!
REALLY? THIS PLACE IS LIKE A DREAM!
SEEMS LIKE YOU'VE FOUND GOOD FRIENDS.
MY, MY, HOW HAPPY YOU LOOK.

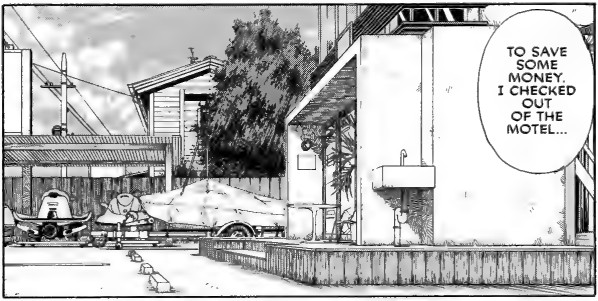
NOT REALLY...
YOU'VE GOT SHARP EYES, DON'T YOU?
I FOR-GOT.
YOU *FOR-GOT?*
YOU'LL HAVE TO REDO IT, OF COURSE.
OR YOU CAN BUILD A WHOLE GEAR BOX...
WHAT ABOUT MY *PLAN?*
"NOT REALLY," *NOTHING!*
NO *WAAAY ...!*

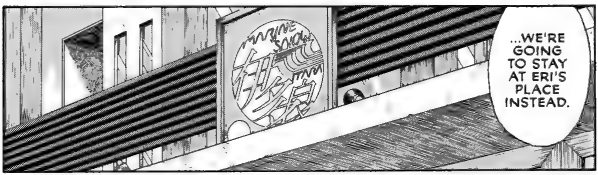
WHAT'S THE MATTER?

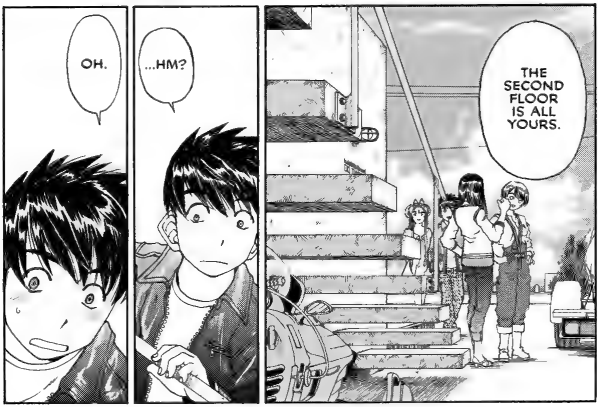

...BUT I COULDN'T ANSWER CHIHIRO'S QUESTION.
I *THOUGHT* I HAD SOMETHING I WANTED TO MAKE...
...BUT...
I MEAN, I THINK *HER* PLAN'S REALLY COOL...
WHAT?
YOU HAVE SOMETHING INSIDE YOU.
...THAT I WANTED TO BUILD?
...I WONDER IF IT'S THE MOTOR-CYCLE...

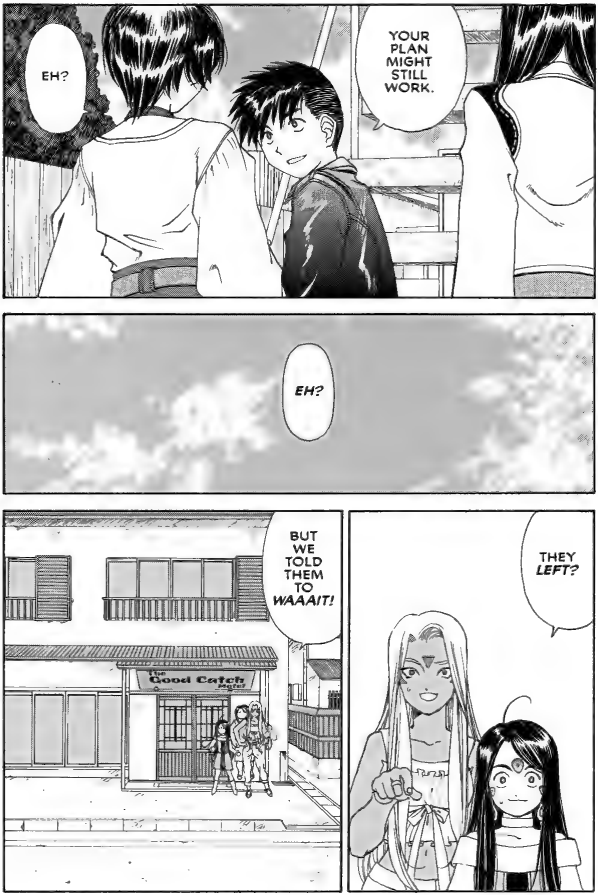

IF NOT, YOU WOULD HAVE GONE RIGHT ALONG WITH CHIHIRO, YES?
THERE'S SOMETHING *YOU* DESIRE TO FIND. THAT'S WHY YOU'RE TROUBLED.
...TRUE.
YEAH...
THROUGH THINKING, THROUGH TRIAL AND ERROR...
IT'S OKAY TO PONDER.

HEY, YOU TWO!
WE'RE HITTING THE ROAD!
WHERE ARE WE GOING ...?
...COMES INSPIRATION.


TO SAVE SOME MONEY, I CHECKED OUT OF THE MOTEL...


...WE'RE GOING TO STAY AT ERI'S PLACE INSTEAD.

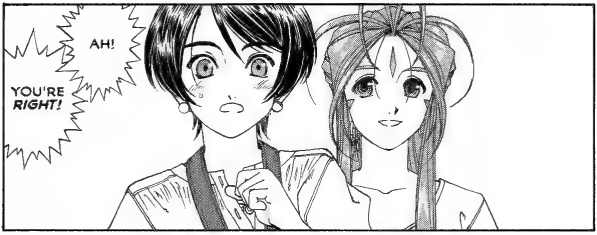

OH.
...HM?
THE SECOND FLOOR IS ALL YOURS.

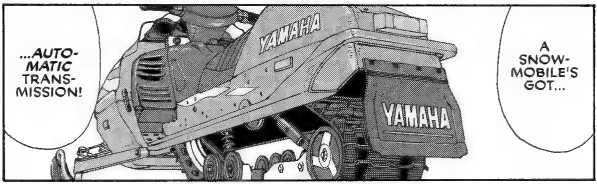

EH?
YOUR PLAN MIGHT STILL WORK.
EH?
BUT WE TOLD THEM TO WAAAIT!
The Good Catch
THEY LEFT?

CHAPTER 208

A New Door

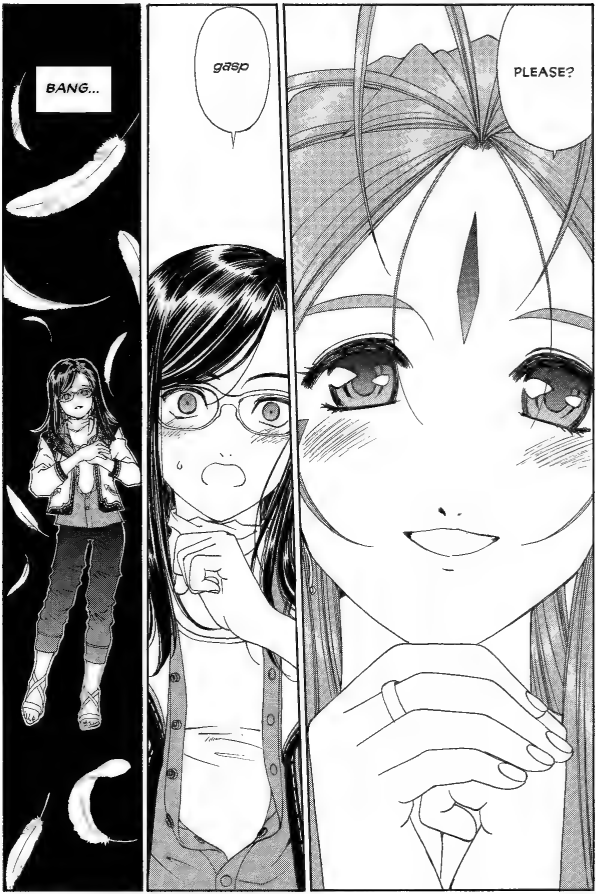
SEE WHAT I MEAN?


AH!
YOU'RE *RIGHT!*


...*AUTO-MATIC* TRANS-MISSION!
YAMAHA
YAMAHA
A SNOW-MOBILE'S GOT...

AND...
THANK YOU, MORI-SATO.
WON'T IT?
IT *WILL!*
IT *WILL* WORK!
...A LITTLE LESS POWER, BUT IT'S *STILL* 135 HORSE-POWER.
PLUS, THERE'S NO PROBLEM WITH THE COOLING SYSTEM...
YAMAHA

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "THANK YOU"?
...THANK YOU, ERI.
...IT DOESN'T MATTER WHO ASKS, YOU KNOW...
ERI...
ALL RIGHT.
CAN YOU ASK ERI, TOO?
NO, I'M NOT.
YOU'RE GIVING IT TO ME, RIGHT?
YES?
BELL, DEAR.

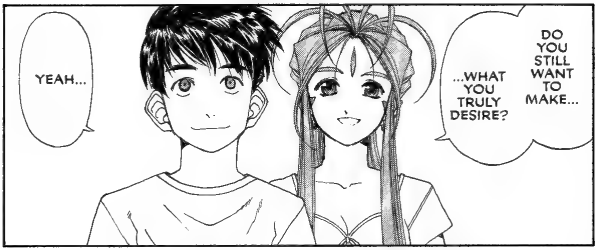

BANG...
gasp
PLEASE?

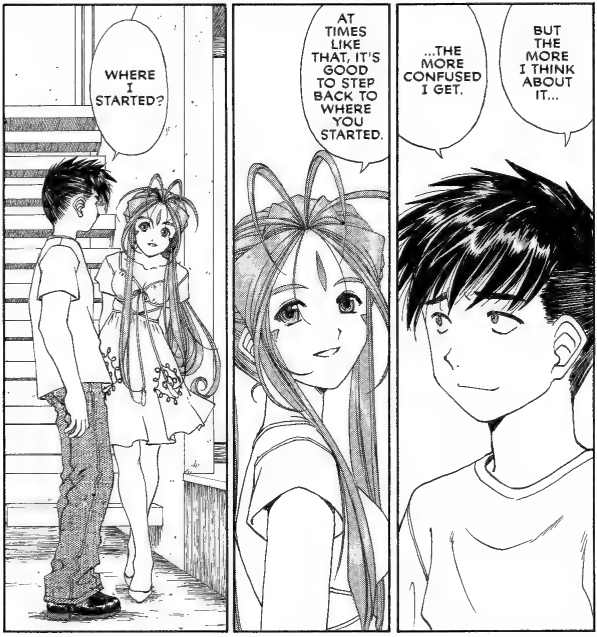
ERI, I'M BORROWING YOUR PHONE.
...
OF COURSE!
TASUGA, BRING ME THAT BASE BIKE I ASKED ABOUT.
NOW.

WOW...
YUP. IT'S SOLID AND STURDY... IT'LL SUPPORT *UNLIMITED* POWER.
AN *FZR*, ISN'T IT?
FUJIMI... YOU'RE ALWAYS SO DARN ABRUPT.
YAMAHA
YAMAHA

OKAY, I LOSE.
BUT NOT *IMPOSSIBLE*, RIGHT?
I HAVEN'T GOT MUCH TIME. IT WON'T BE EASY.
BUT YOU *CAN*, RIGHT?
YOU GOTTA TELL ME AHEAD OF TIME IF YOU'RE SWITCHING SPECS.
MAKES THINGS DIFFICULT, YOU KNOW?
RIGHT THEN, MORISATO, DROP THE ENGINE.
WOW.
HM... GOOD GOING.
I ALREADY HAVE.

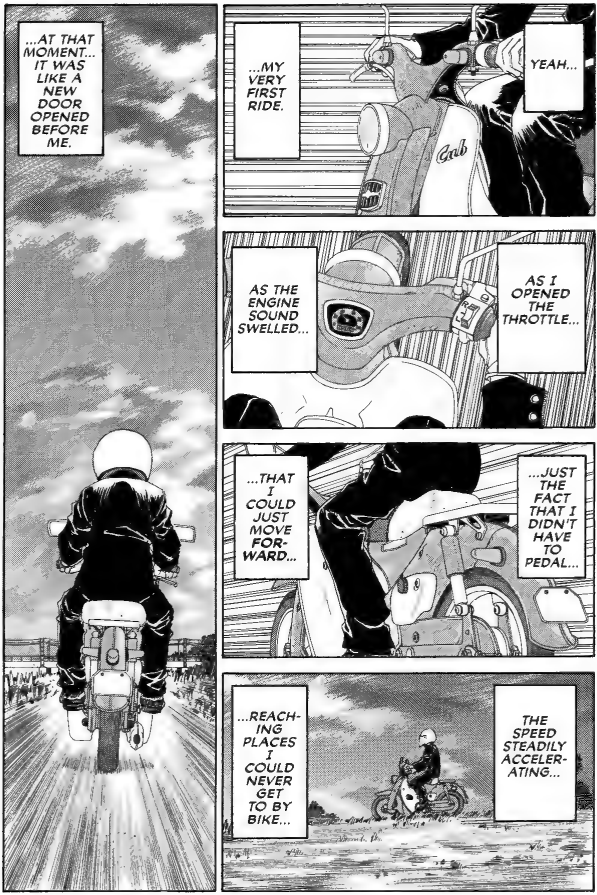
I FOUND HIM.
YOU CAN'T HAVE HIM.
HEH HEH HEH... I SURE DO.
YOU'VE GOT GOOD STAFF.
...MAYBE USE A HIGH-GEARED FINAL DRIVE RATIO?
BUT AS IS, THERE'S TOO MUCH TORQUE...


YEAH...
DO YOU STILL WANT TO MAKE...
...WHAT YOU TRULY DESIRE?


WHERE I STARTED?
AT TIMES LIKE THAT, IT'S GOOD TO STEP BACK TO WHERE YOU STARTED.
...THE MORE CONFUSED I GET.
BUT THE MORE I THINK ABOUT IT...

REMEMBER.
tink

UH...
...AH.


...AT THAT MOMENT... IT WAS LIKE A NEW DOOR OPENED BEFORE ME.
...MY VERY FIRST RIDE.
YEAH...
AS THE ENGINE SOUND SWELLED...
AS I OPENED THE THROTTLE...
...THAT I COULD JUST MOVE FORWARD...
...JUST THE FACT THAT I DIDN'T HAVE TO PEDAL...
...REACHING PLACES I COULD NEVER GET TO BY BIKE...
THE SPEED STEADILY ACCELERATING...

A NEW DOOR.
THAT'S RIGHT.
THANKS! I THINK I'VE GOT SOMETHING NOW.
A NEW...
A NEW DOOR...
INDEED.

...
oh ...?
OHH...
...THIS IS IT.
MORISATO, HELP ME OUT OVER HERE.

YOU'VE *THOUGHT* OF SOME-THING, HAVEN'T YOU?
--CHIHIRO, DO YOU MIND IF I USE THAT CHASSIS?
SURE, GO AHEAD...
...!!
I MEAN, SURPRISE ME *LATER*...
EH?
STOP!! I DON'T WANNA HEAR IT!
YEAH. YOU SEE...

...I KNOW IT'S GOING TO BE SOMETHING INTERESTING.
...BECAUSE, WITH THAT FACE OF YOURS, MORI-SATO...
WELL... YEAH, PROBA-BLY.
OH-HO! I SEE.
THE ENGINE, SEE...
--AND...
--AND, FOR THE HUBS...
WHAT'S THAT?
OH?
AND, UH, I'VE GOT A LITTLE SOME-THING TO ASK YOU...

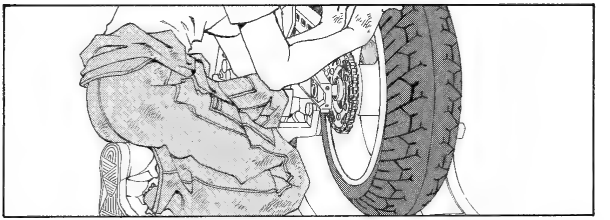
I THOUGHT YOU DIDN'T WANT TO HEAR IT?
I DON'T.
OKAY, THEN...
...IF *THAT'S* HOW IT'S GONNA BE...
YOU WON'T BETRAY ME, ERI?
I DON'T SEE ANYONE BETRAYING *YOU.*
...LET'S SEE WHOSE IDEA IS MORE *FUN!!*
IF *WHAT'S* HOW IT'S GOING TO BE?

WH-WHAT'S A BATTLE ...?!
ALL RIGHT!! IT'S A BATTLE!
YEAH!! LEAVE IT UP TO ME, MORI-SATO!!
I'LL GET US EVERY-THING WE NEED!
PLEASE.
AH... WELL... OKAY.
YOU'LL GET IT, HUH?
SHINKI IRON WORK

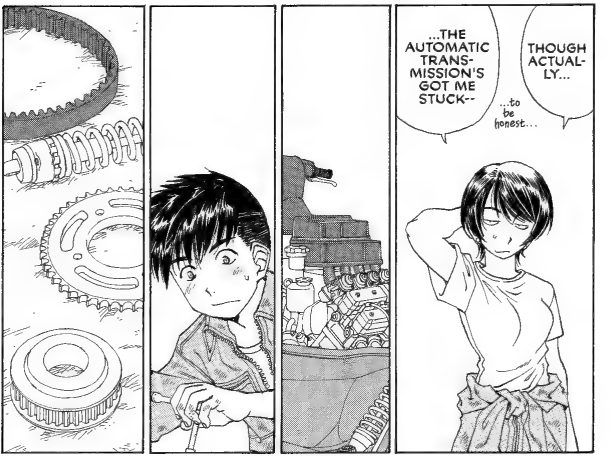
CHAPTER 209

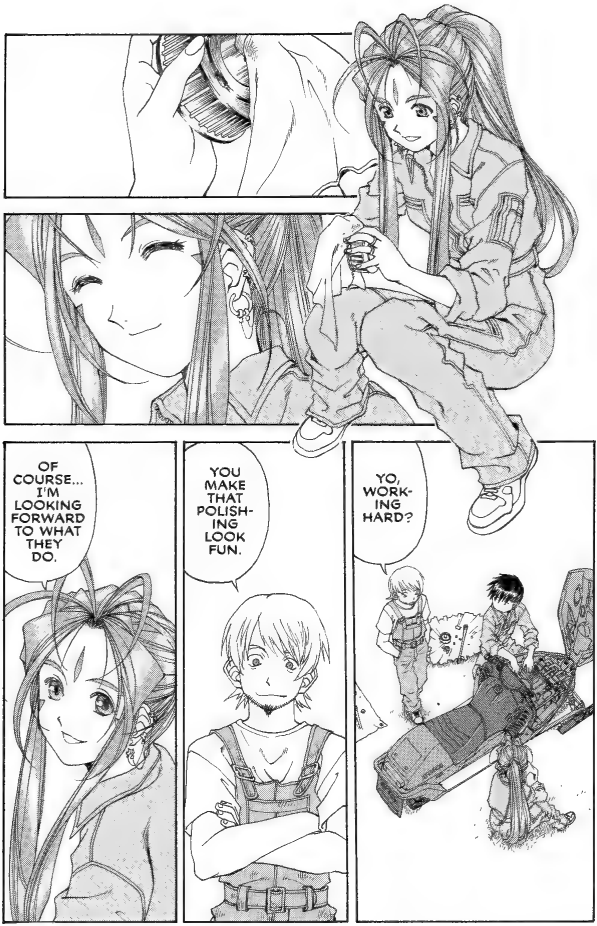
The Unveiling

...USE THE JACK TO LIFT IT--
...YES, YES, A LITTLE TO THE RIGHT--



YUP.
YOU'RE DEFT AS EVER.

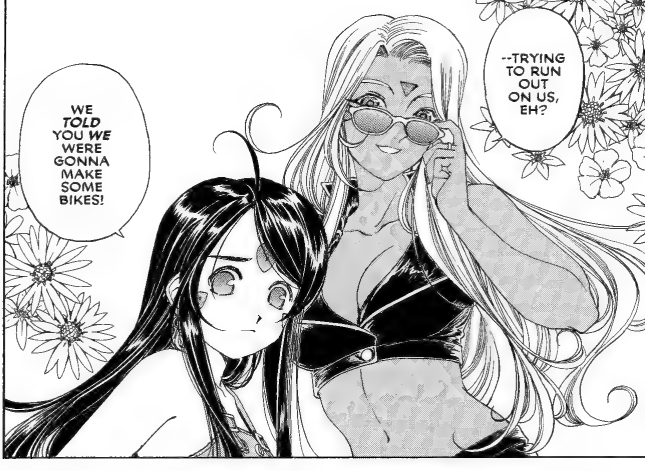

THOUGH ACTUAL-LY...
...to be honest...
...THE AUTOMATIC TRANS-MISSION'S GOT ME STUCK--

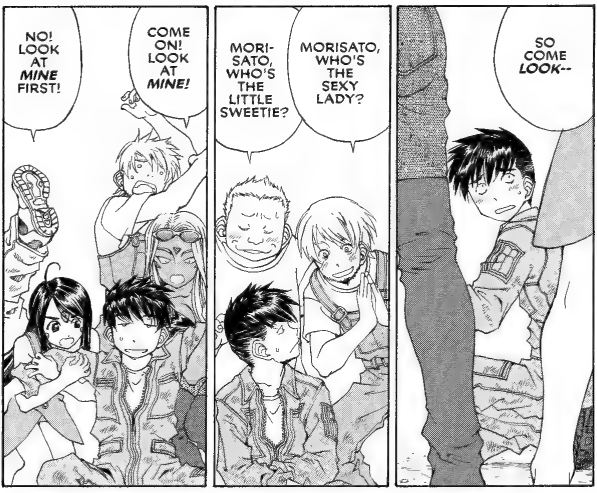

OF COURSE... I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO WHAT THEY DO.
YOU MAKE THAT POLISHING LOOK FUN.
YO, WORKING HARD?

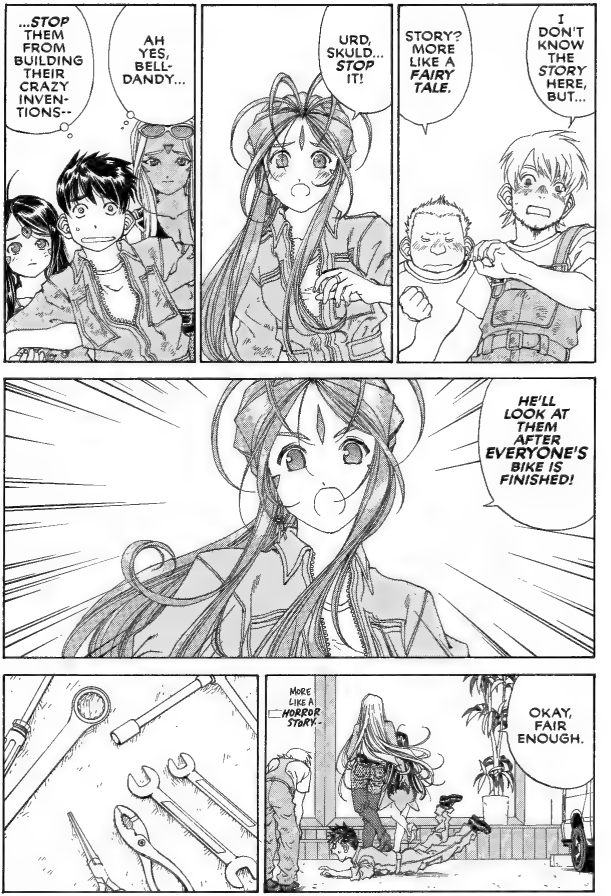
BUT...
SHE'S REALLY GOT IT DOWN.
CLEANING IS THE BASIS OF MAINTENANCE.
BECAUSE WELL-POLISHED PARTS PERFORM THEIR BEST, RIGHT?
...MAYBE THIS IS...
WHEN DID YOU--?!
IT'S SO MUCH FUN!

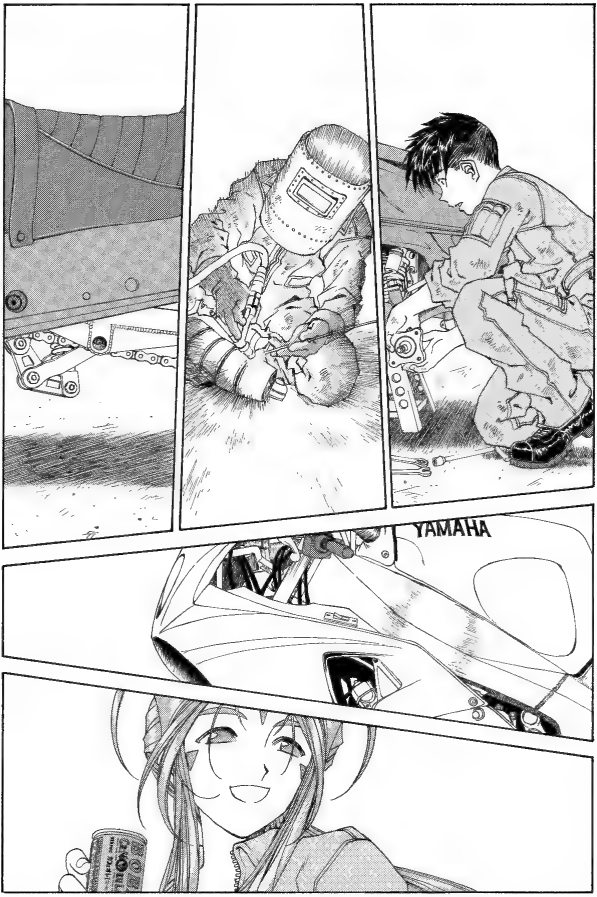
SO YOU GUYS ARE REALLY GOING UP AGAINST... THAT?
THAT
YEAH! EUREKA!!
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO SAID THIS WAS A BATTLE, TASUGA.
AH... I DID?
...SHE'S GOT A DIVINE TOUCH, DOESN'T SHE?
IT'S LIKE THE TOOLS ARE SIMPLY DRAWN TO THE BOLTS...
STILL...
EVERY MOVE IS ELEGANT... PERFECT...

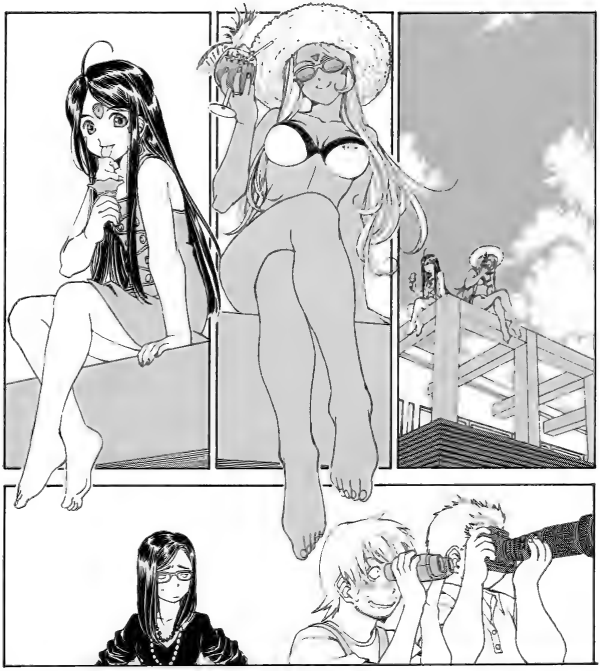
IT'S LIKE... IT'S A FIGURE OF SPEECH.
EH? IS CHIHIRO A GODDESS, TOO?
IT'S LIKE... SHE'S A GODDESS OF MAINTE-NANCE.
SO? CUT TO THE CHASE. CAN YOU *WIN?*
AH! *THERE* YOU ARE--
WIN OR LOSE, I'LL JUST...


WE TOLD YOU WE WERE GONNA MAKE SOME BIKES!
--TRYING TO RUN OUT ON US, EH?


NO! LOOK AT MINE FIRST!
COME ON! LOOK AT MINE!
MORI-SATO, WHO'S THE LITTLE SWEETIE?
MORISATO, WHO'S THE SEXY LADY?
SO COME LOOK--

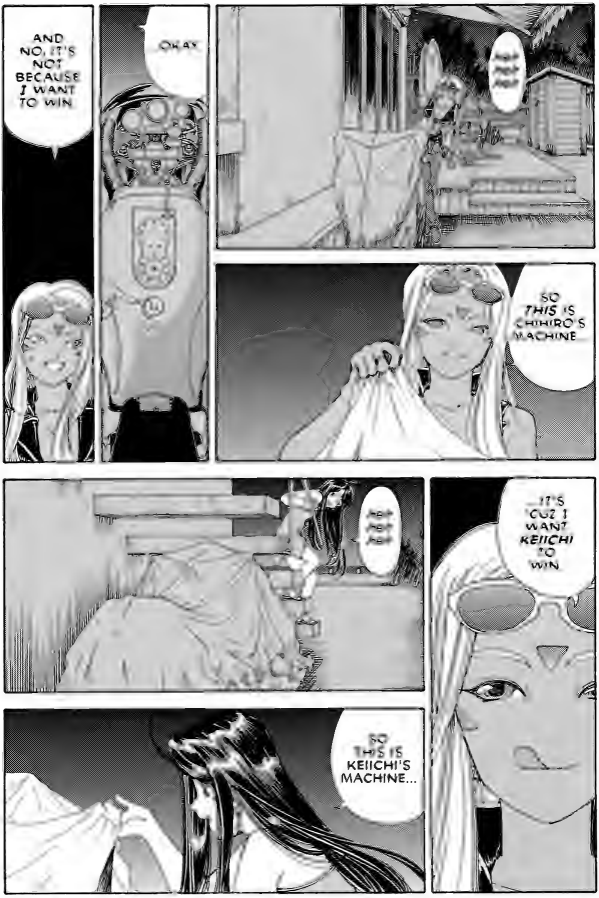

I DON'T KNOW THE STORY HERE, BUT...
STORY? MORE LIKE A FAIRY TALE.
URD, SKULD... STOP IT!
AH YES, BELL-DANDY...
...STOP THEM FROM BUILDING THEIR CRAZY INVEN-TIONS--
HE'LL LOOK AT THEM AFTER EVERYONE'S BIKE IS FINISHED!
OKAY, FAIR ENOUGH.
MORE LIKE A HORROR STORY.


YAMAHA

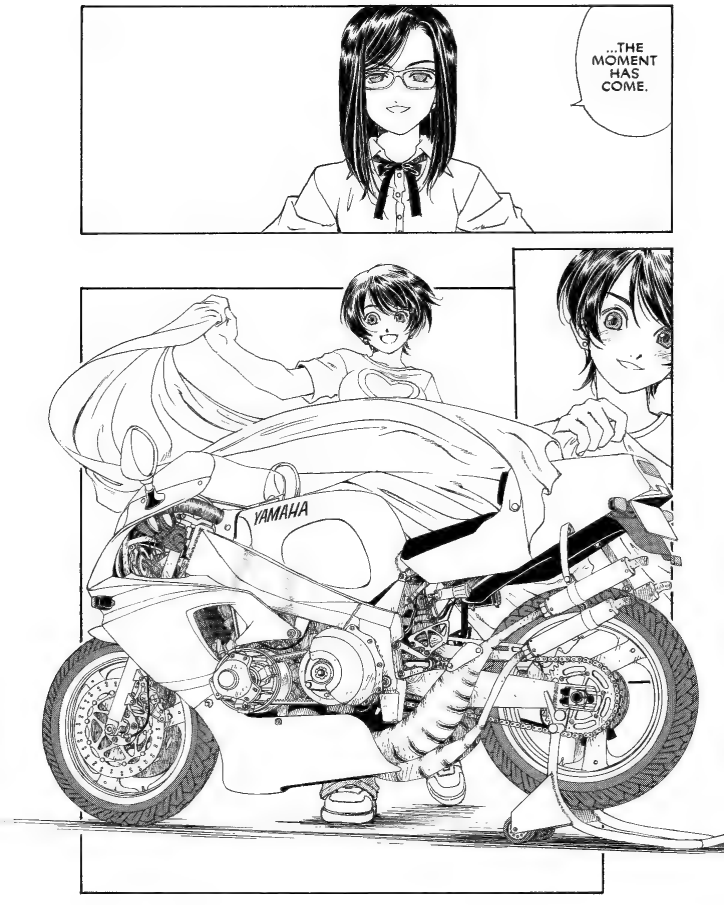


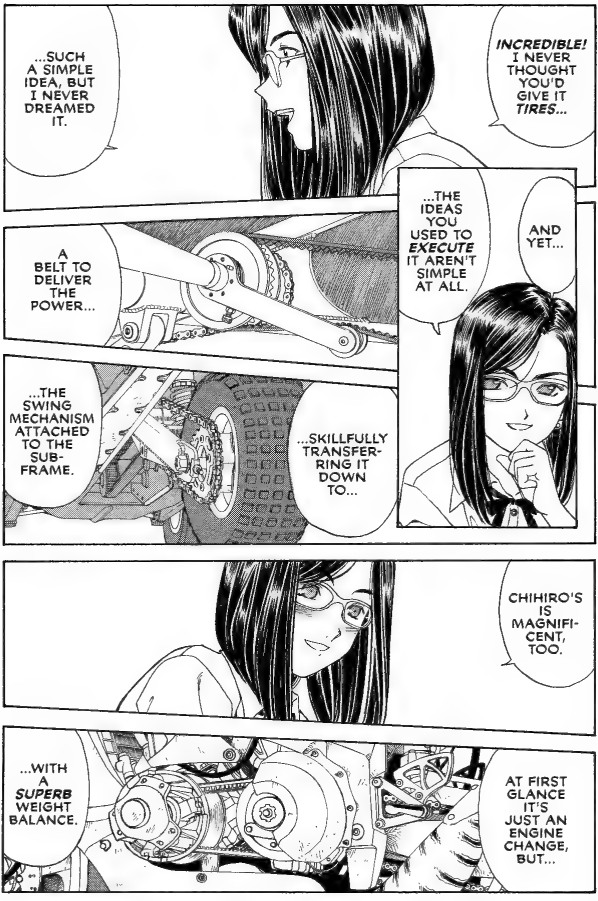
YOU MUST BE TIRED.
WOMEN ONLY
HUUUUH
BOHHHH
PHEEE
..DOOONE.
WE'RE...
GOOD WORK...
YOU'VE FINISHED?

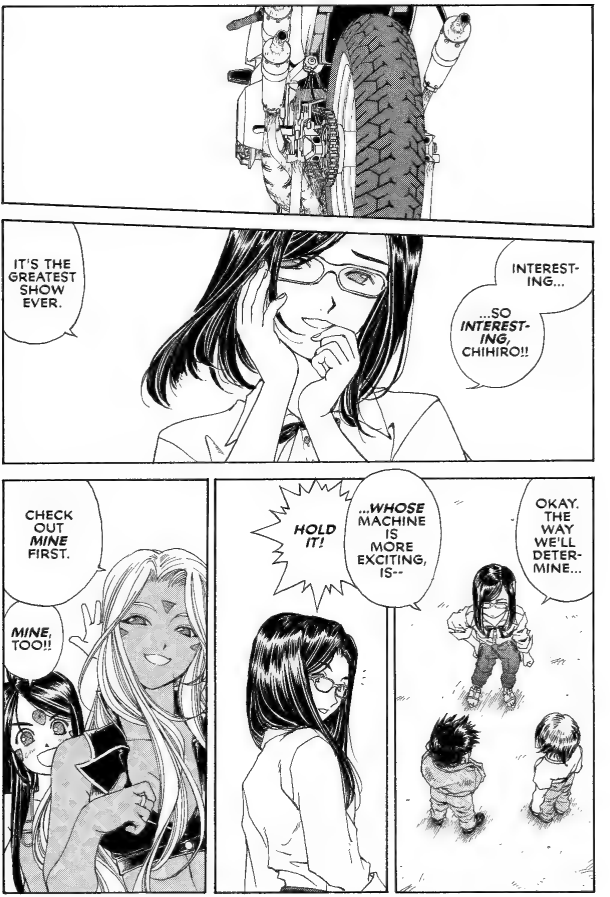
...BOTH OF YOU.


AND NO, IT'S NOT BECAUSE I WANT TO WIN
OKAY
PUSH PUSH PUSH
SO THIS IS CHIHIRO'S MACHINE
PUSH PUSH PUSH
IT'S 'CUZ I WANT KEIICHI TO WIN
SO THIS IS KEIICHI'S MACHINE...

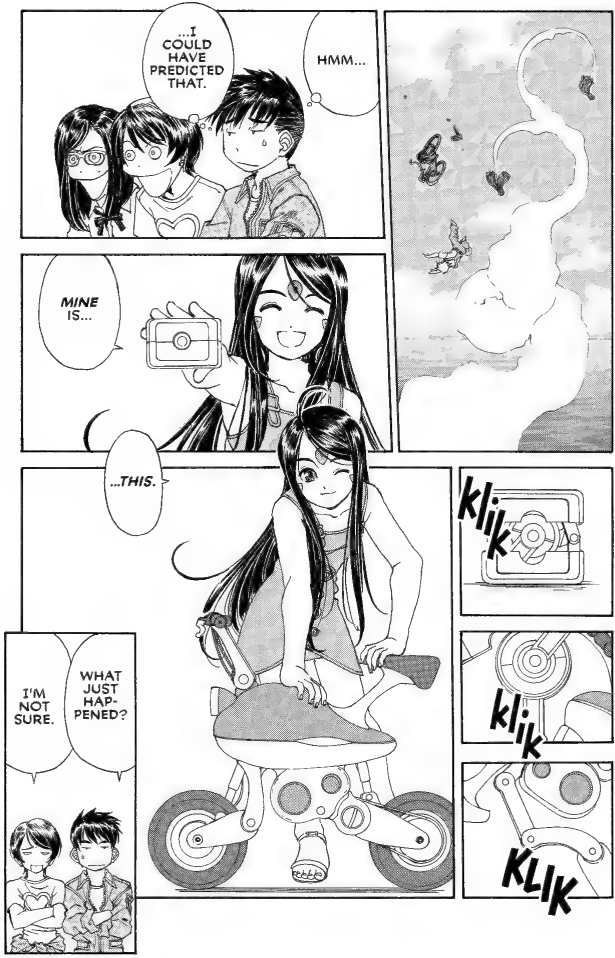
hee hee hee
HAW! HAW!
...IT'S 'CUZ I WANT KEIICHI TO HAVE SOME FUN.
AND NO, IT'S NOT BECAUSE I WANT TO HAVE SOME FUN.


...THE MOMENT HAS COME.
YAMAHA

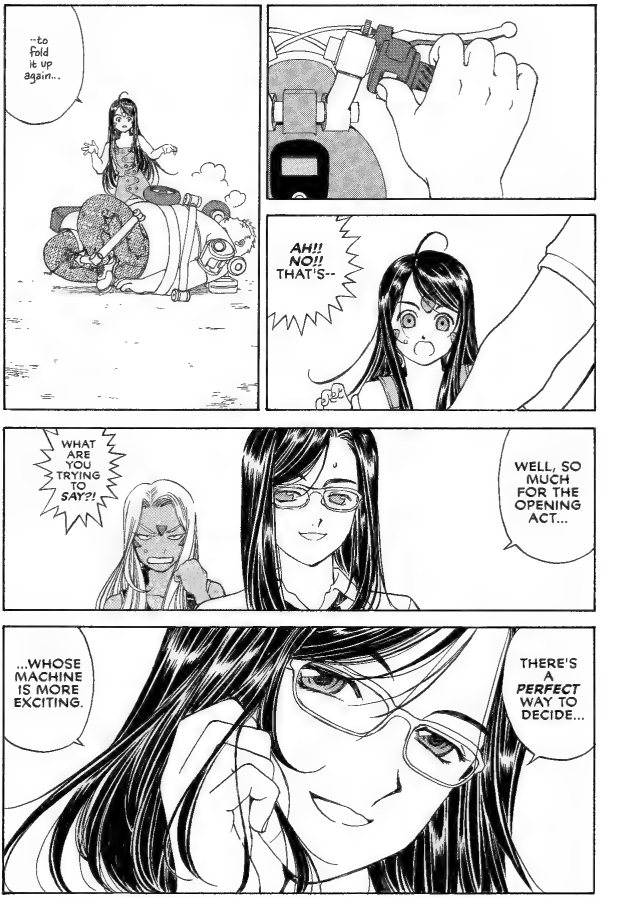

...SUCH A SIMPLE IDEA, BUT I NEVER DREAMED IT.
INCREDIBLE! I NEVER THOUGHT YOU'D GIVE IT TIRES...
...THE IDEAS YOU USED TO EXECUTE IT AREN'T SIMPLE AT ALL.
AND YET...
A BELT TO DELIVER THE POWER...
...THE SWING MECHANISM ATTACHED TO THE SUB-FRAME.
...SKILLFULLY TRANSFER-RING IT DOWN TO...
CHIHIRO'S IS MAGNIFI-CENT, TOO.
...WITH A SUPERB WEIGHT BALANCE.
AT FIRST GLANCE IT'S JUST AN ENGINE CHANGE, BUT...


IT'S THE GREATEST SHOW EVER.
INTEREST-ING...
...SO *INTEREST-ING,* CHIHIRO!!
CHECK OUT *MINE* FIRST.
MINE, TOO!!
HOLD IT!
...WHOSE MACHINE IS MORE EXCITING, IS--
OKAY. THE WAY WE'LL DETER-MINE...

HEAR THE ROAR OF THE QUAD-RUPLE BROOMS...
...THE "COMET FOUR" !!
--YO, PRETTY COOL!
YOU THINK SO?
GREAT. I'LL LEAVE IT TO YOU.
huh?
BAROOM
WHSH


...I COULD HAVE PREDICTED THAT.
HMM...
MINE IS...
...THIS.
klik
klik
KLIK
WHAT JUST HAP-PENED?
I'M NOT SURE.

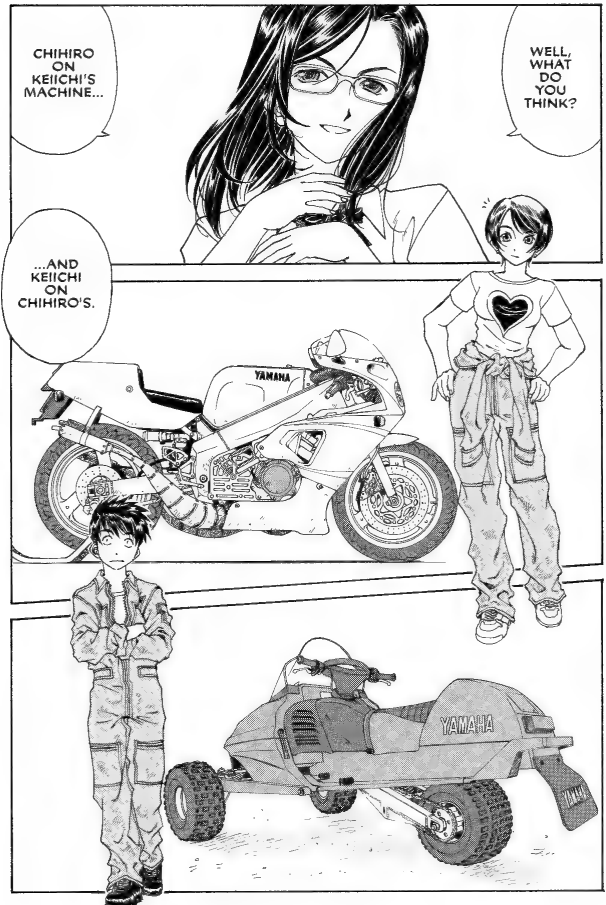
OH, COME ON!
HERE. I'LL DO IT AGAIN.
klik klik KLIK
SEE?
MORISATO-KUN?
IT'S OBVIOUSLY JUST A MAGIC TRICK.
LIKE WHEN YOU PULL A MINIBIKE OUT OF SOME-ONE'S EAR.
H-HEY, LET BIG BROTHER RIDE IT.
HMMM...
WELL...
...CAN YOU?


--to fold it up again...
AH!! NO!! THAT'S--
WELL, SO MUCH FOR THE OPENING ACT...
WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO SAY?!
THERE'S A PERFECT WAY TO DECIDE...
...WHOSE MACHINE IS MORE EXCITING.

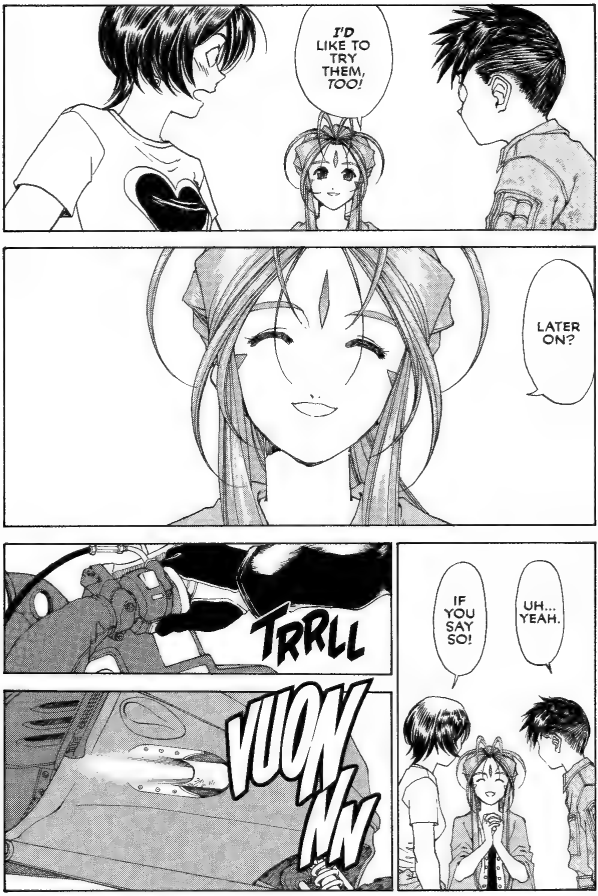
TAKE A RUN TO THE HARBOR BREAK-WATER.
BUT NOT ON YOUR *OWN* BIKE...
...SEE HOW THE *OTHER* ONE FEELS.

CHAPTER 210

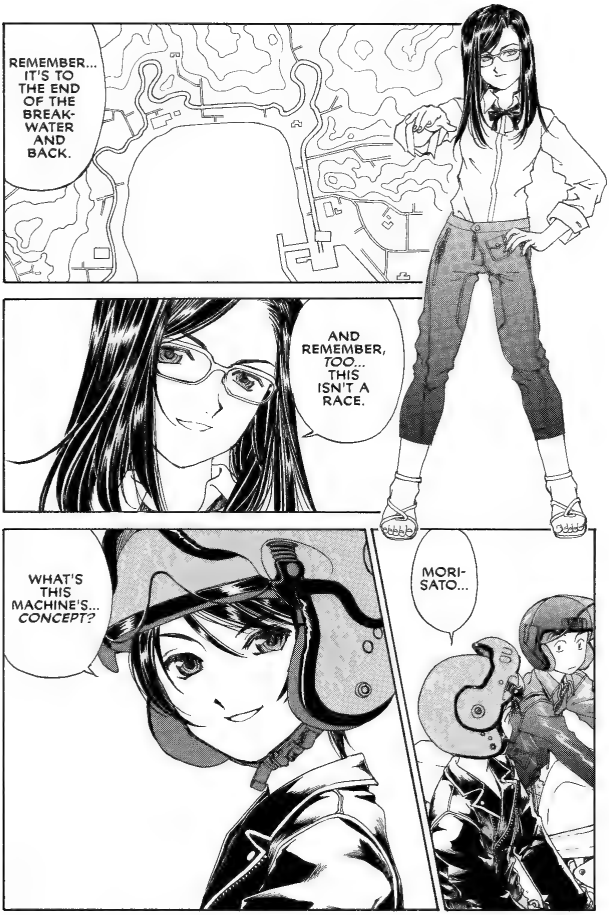
Starting-Line Yell


CHIHIRO ON KEIICHI'S MACHINE...
WELL, WHAT DO YOU THINK?
...AND KEIICHI ON CHIHIRO'S.
YAMAHA
YAMAHA

DON'T YOU THINK IT'D BE INTERESTING TO TEST EACH OTHER?
B-BUT... BUT!!
SO LIKE YOU, ERI. A GREAT IDEA.
I'M DOWN FOR IT.
HEY, I WANTED TO TRY CHIHIRO'S MACHINE ANYWAY.


I'D LIKE TO TRY THEM, TOO!
LATER ON?
TRRLL
VUONNN
IF YOU SAY SO!
UH... YEAH.

BA
MI
GSHUUN
GRRPP


REMEMBER... IT'S TO THE END OF THE BREAK-WATER AND BACK.
AND REMEMBER, *TOO*... THIS ISN'T A RACE.
WHAT'S THIS MACHINE'S... *CONCEPT?*
MORI-SATO...

IF YOURS... IS "ECSTASY"...
THEN MINE... IS "EXPLORER" !!
AN EXPLOR-ER...
...LIKE A PIONEER, MM?
THEN I'LL ENJOY IT.
PRRRRR PRRRRR PRRRRR
VRRMM VRRMM VRRMM

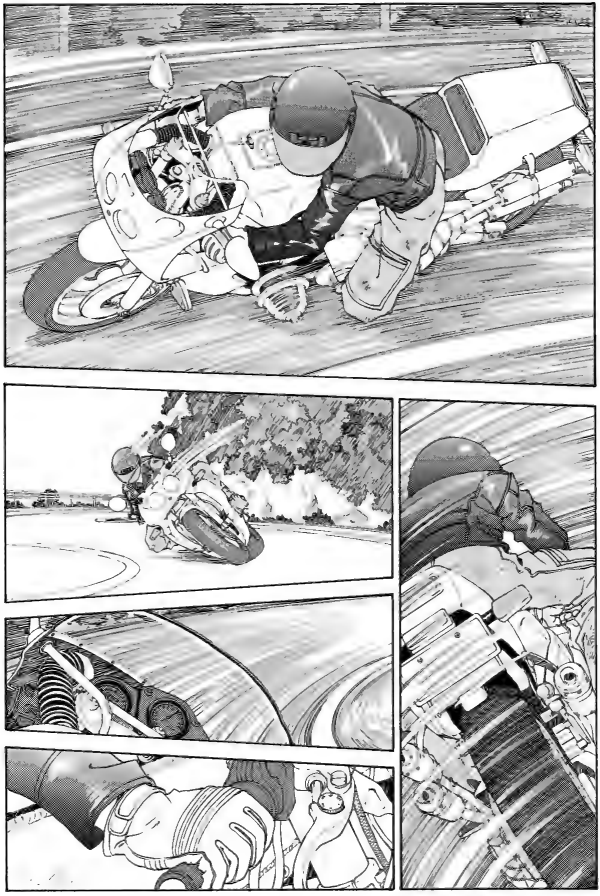
PRRAAAA
VUOHHH
RRRRUUHH
PRARAARAA

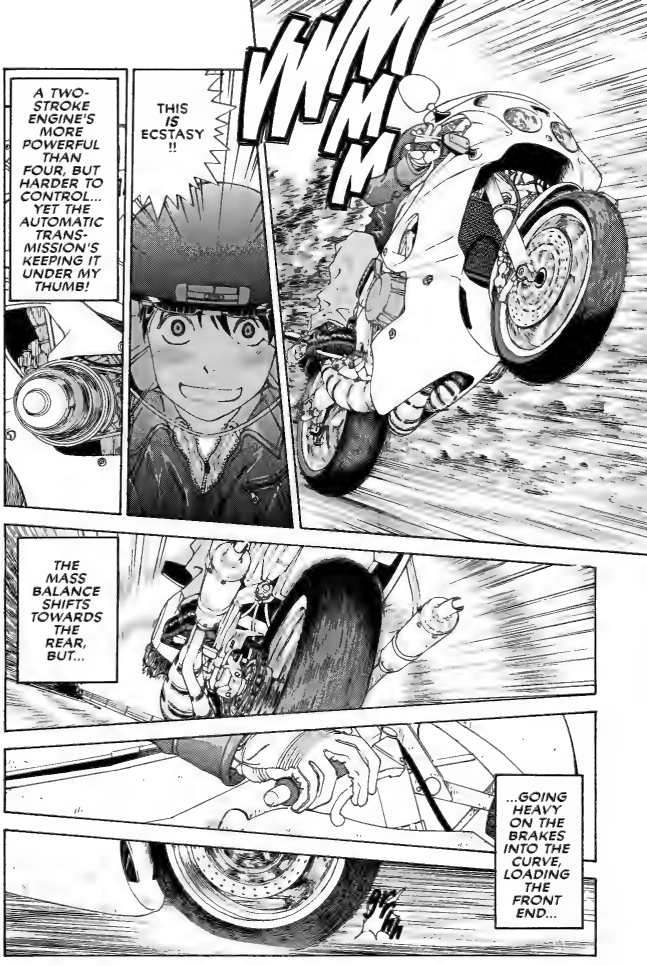
YOU MUST'VE BEEN *RACE-HORSES* IN YOUR PAST LIVES!!
SIGNAL? JUST *GO!* WHAT'S *WITH* YOU TWO?
...YOU GONNA REV ALL DAY?
YAMAHA
...DOESN'T FEEL *RIGHT,* YOU KNOW ...?
WELL, STARTING WITHOUT A SIGNAL KIND OF...
EH?
I'LL GIVE THE SIGNAL.
...FOR THOSE SETTING UPON A JOURNEY.
IT'S LIKE SHOUTING OUT A CHEER...

OKAY...!
VOOSSHH
READY !!

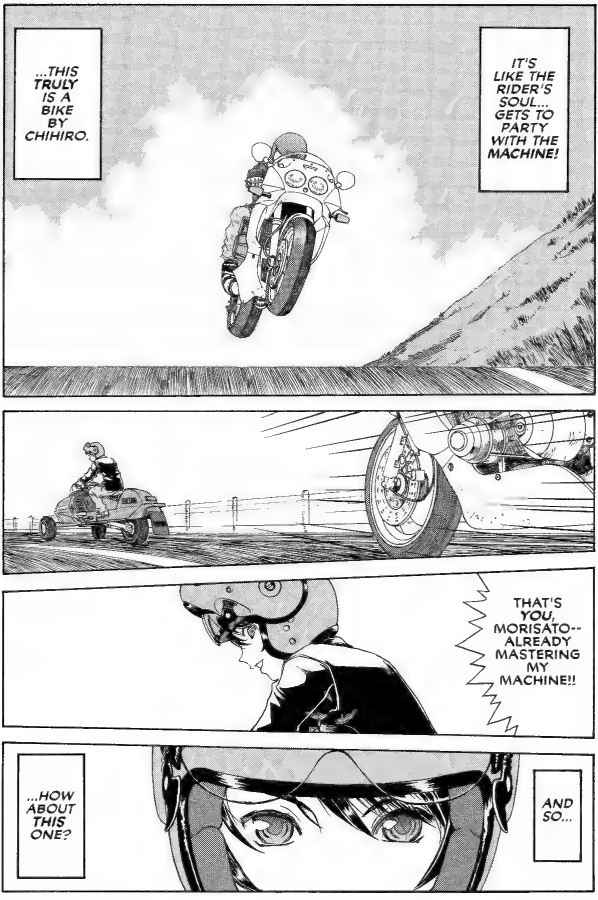
GO!!

...WELL, I GUESS IT'LL TURN INTO A RACE NO MATTER WHAT.
flyp flyp
YAMAHA




A TWO-STROKE ENGINE'S MORE POWERFUL THAN FOUR, BUT HARDER TO CONTROL... YET THE AUTOMATIC TRANS-MISSION'S KEEPING IT UNDER MY THUMB!
THIS IS ECSTASY !!
VHMMM
THE MASS BALANCE SHIFTS TOWARDS THE REAR, BUT...
...GOING HEAVY ON THE BRAKES INTO THE CURVE, LOADING THE FRONT END...
GRRR

...YOU GET MORE TRAC-TION ON THE REAR TIRE.
...THEN LETTING IT SELF-CENTER ON THE WAY OUT...
I CAN'T WAIT TO HIT THE NEXT CURVE!


...THIS TRULY IS A BIKE BY CHIHIRO.
IT'S LIKE THE RIDER'S SOUL... GETS TO PARTY WITH THE MACHINE!
THAT'S YOU, MORISATO-- ALREADY MASTERING MY MACHINE!!
...HOW ABOUT THIS ONE?
AND SO...

IT'S FRONT-LOADED BECAUSE OF THE HEAVIER ENGINE...
AND WITH THE CATER-PILLAR GONE IN THE BACK...
...THE REAR'S BECOME LIGHTER.
IN WHICH CASE...
WHHM

...I'LL SWING IT WAY OUT!!
AAAAAAAA
WOW!! THIS IS FUN!!
UM...

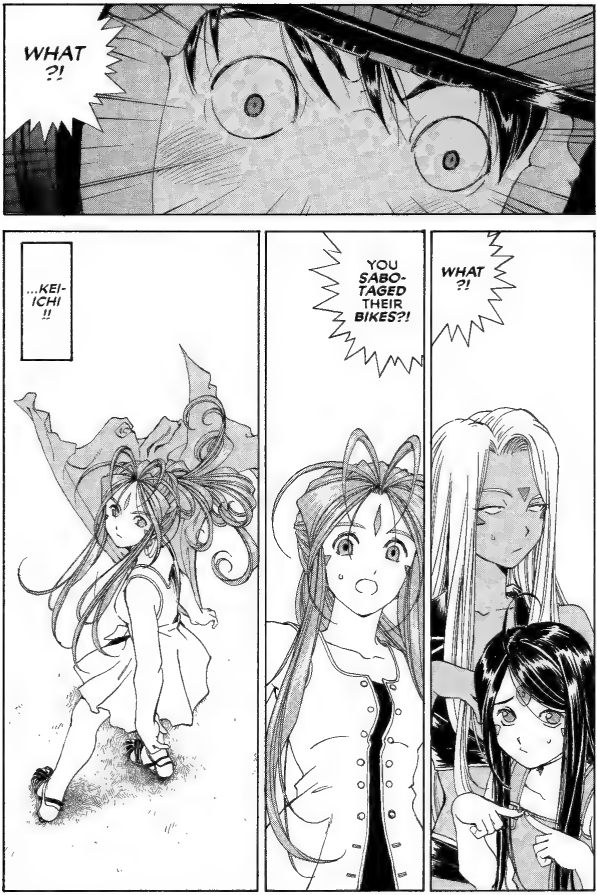
BRAAAAAA
AHH!!
...IT'S ANNOY-ING TO BE LEFT BEHIND.
BUT...
MY MACHINE... TOO COOL!!

THIS MACHINE CAN GO ANY-WHERE!!
THIS IS... FOR THE EXPLOR-ER!!
...THAT'S IT!!

CHALLENG-
ING
NEW
WORLDS...
VWOOOSH
YAMAHA
...TO
THINK
ON
YOUR
FEET
IS SO
MORISATO.
YEARN-
ING
FOR
THE
ROAD
YET
UN-
SEEN...
YAMAHA

...TOO COOL...
...MY MACHINE !!
WHOA!
GKUNN
GYUUN

THE THROOOTTLE'S--
UWAAAA!! THE THROTTLE ...!!
WAHH !!
ACK! CHIHIRO !!
VRAAAAAAAA
KWWWWN
poop
Pop... poppop


WHAT ?!
WHAT ?!
YOU SABO-TAGED THEIR BIKES?!
...KEI-ICHI !!

CHAPTER 211

The Goddess Dashes

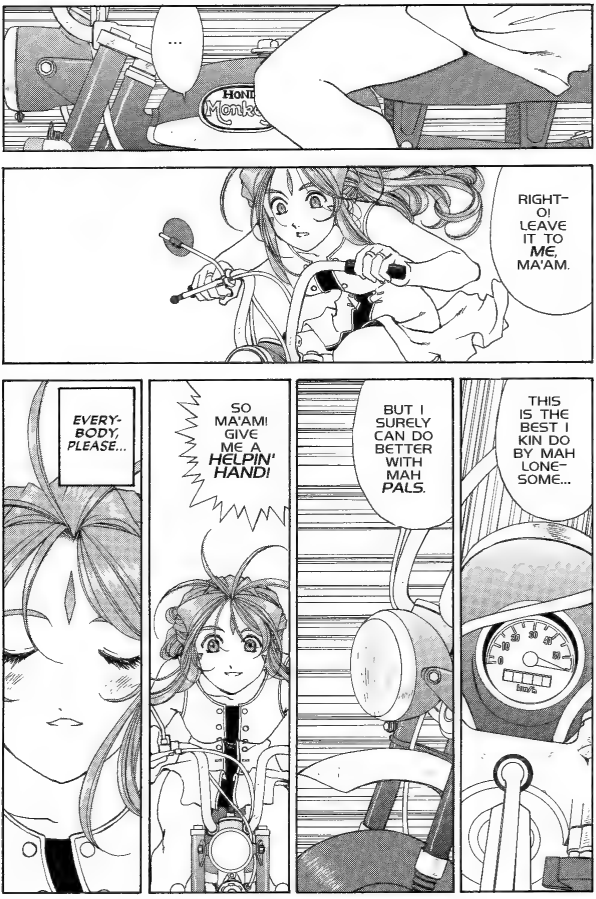
...I WANTED TO HELP KEIICHI *WIN.*
SORRY, IT WAS JUST...
EH?
YEAH, YEAH, I DIDN'T MAKE ANY *DANGER-OUS* MODS.
AND IF IT *IS* DANGEROUS, IT'LL STOP AUTOMATIC-ALLY...
...OH! BUT DON'T *WORRY--*
I NEVER EXPECTED THEM TO TRADE *MACHINES!*

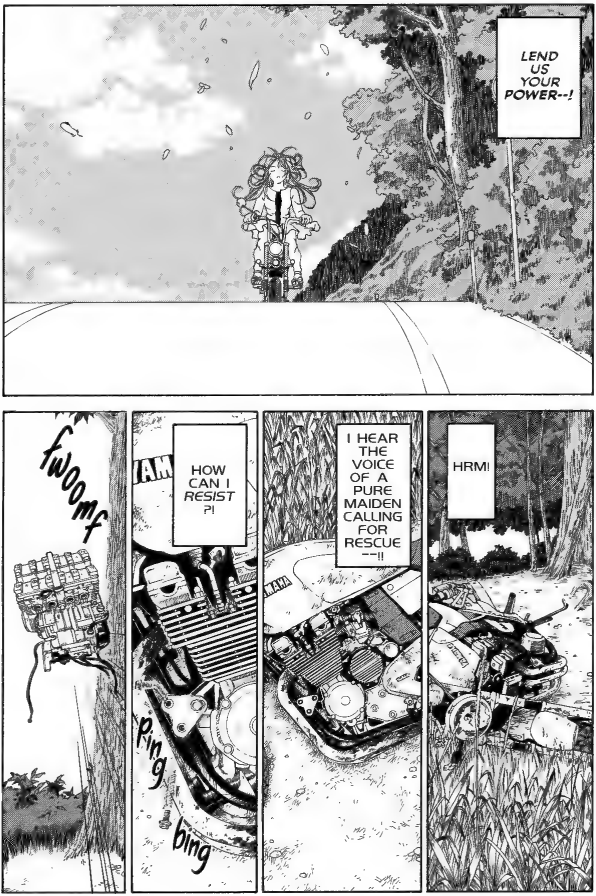
YAMAHA
GYAAA
KYAAA
UM...
boom f... boom f...
pfft
HUH ...?
Phhsstt
KWWEEEN

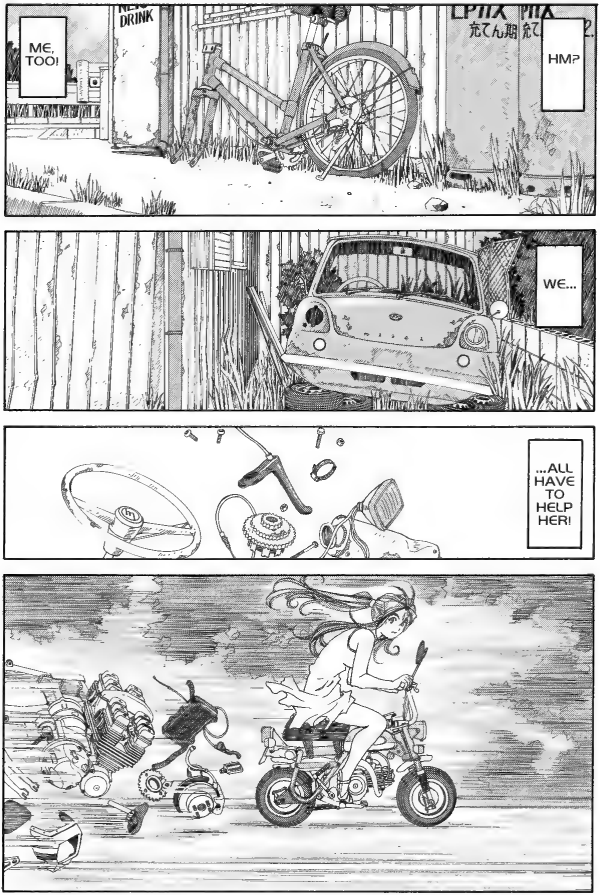
I'VE GOT TO CATCH UP WITH THEM!!
OH, DEAR!!
THAT'S CHIHIRO'S MONKEY !!

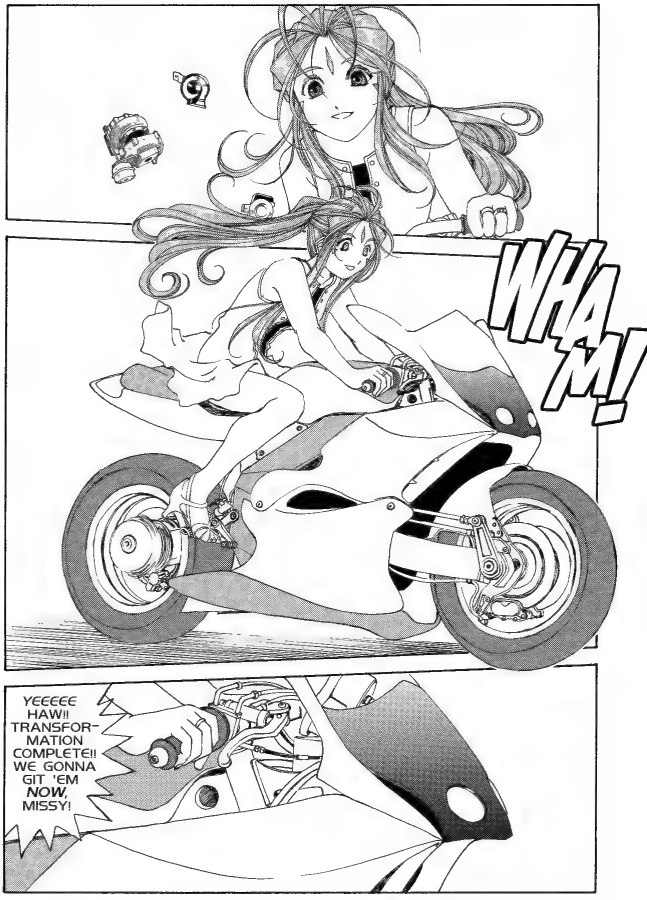
Near My Request--
KR-OOM
HUH?
ERI, I'M BORROW-ING THIS BIKE!!
kkhht
ZKKRRRR
Spirits of Fire...
YRAAAAA
BURST !!

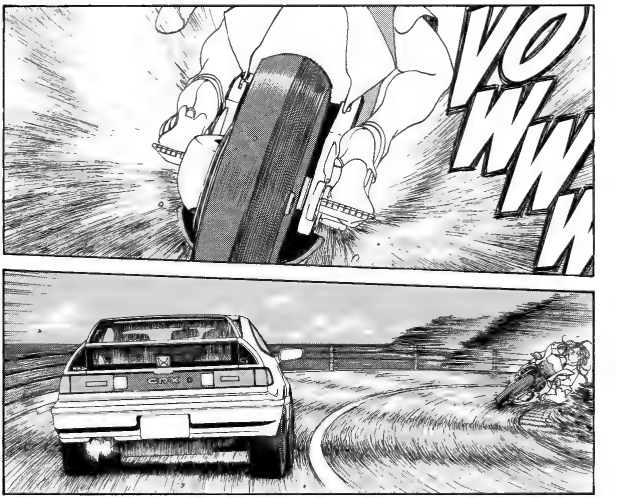
ONE, IT'S NOT MINE, AND TWO...
...BELL'S A DARN GOOD RIDER.
SHE SURE WAS IN A TIZZY...
IT'D BE MUCH FASTER BY MIRROR...
MAYBE WE OUGHT TO FEEL A LITTLE GUILTY...
A LITTLE?
CAUTION AHEAD
--I'LL NEVER MAKE IT IN TIME LIKE THIS.
OH, NO--


...
HONDA
Monkey
RIGHT-O! LEAVE IT TO ME, MA'AM.
THIS IS THE BEST I KIN DO BY MAH LONE-SOME...
BUT I SURELY CAN DO BETTER WITH MAH PALS.
SO MA'AM! GIVE ME A HELPIN' HAND!
EVERY-BODY, PLEASE...


LEND US YOUR POWER--!
HRM!
I HEAR THE VOICE OF A PURE MAIDEN CALLING FOR RESCUE --!!
HOW CAN I RESIST ?!
ping
bing
twoomf


DRINK
ME, TOO!
HM?
WE...
...ALL HAVE TO HELP HER!


WHAM!
YEEEEE HAW!! TRANSFOR-MATION COMPLETE!! WE GONNA GIT 'EM *NOW*, MISSY!


YOWWW

OH.

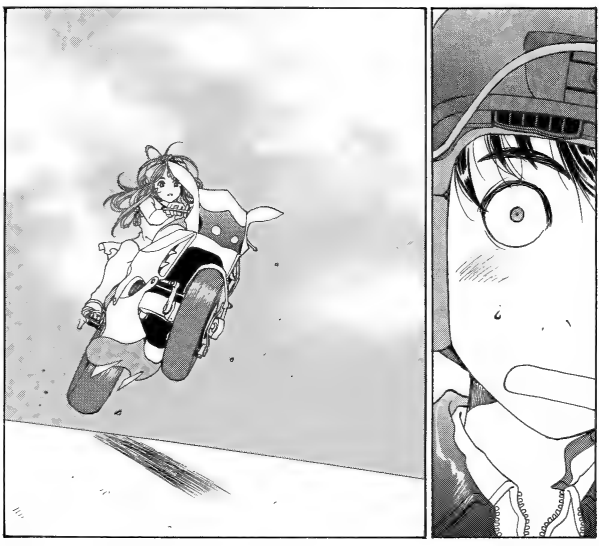
MORI-SATO !!
YOUR MA-CHINE ...!!
CHIHI-RO!!
CHIHIRO! CHECK FOR ANYTHING STRANGE ON YOUR BIKE!
HUH?
AH...
OH?
YAMA

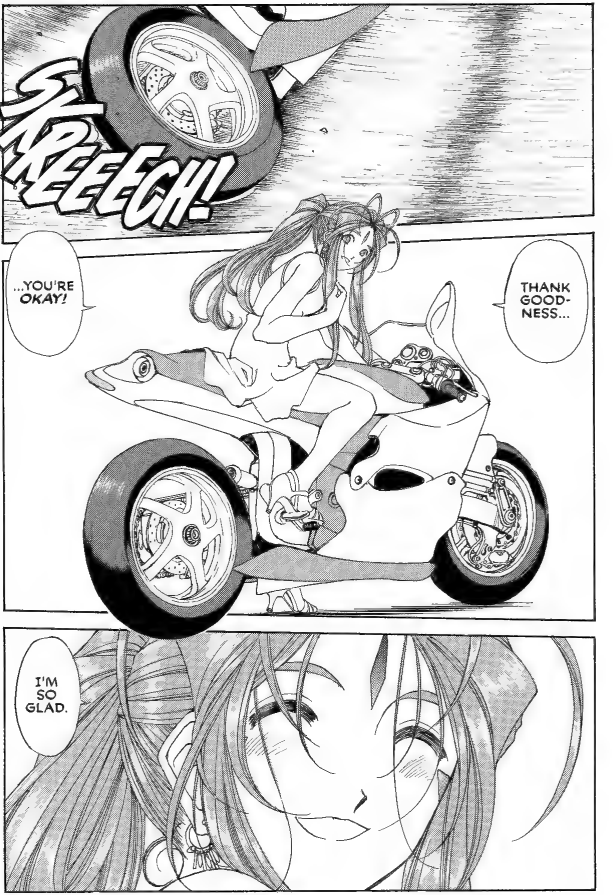
HERE!
HERE!
chak
THANK GOODNESS... THE MARK COMES OFF WITH GASOLINE.
KLUP
YAMAHA

...BUT IT ISN'T.
IT LOOKS LIKE A FUEL FILTER...
poting
BURAAA
PERFECT.
VROOM
KWHN KWHN

OKAY!
VROOM!

VRRMMM
OH?
RIGHT, THEN--
--LET'S...




SKREEECH!
THANK GOOD-NESS...
...YOU'RE OKAY!
I'M SO GLAD.

...WORRIED ABOUT *ME*...
SHE CAME IN SUCH A FRANTIC RUSH...
HEY, BELL-CHAN!
THANK YOU.
NOW?
OH, THIS? JUST NOW.
AH...
AND WHEN DID YOU *BUILD* IT?
WHAT'S THAT *MACHINE* OF YOURS?

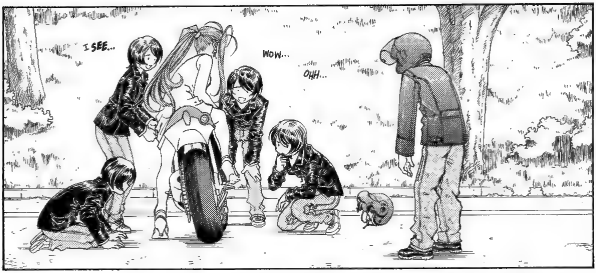
LOOK AT THOSE SLICK PARTS! ERI WAS HOLDING OUT ON ME.
HMMM... IS THAT SO?
OF COURSE, IT WAS FINISHED WITH EVERY-ONE'S HELP.
OH...
...N-NO.
HMMM...
...HMMM!
CHIHIRO? WHAT'RE YOU STARING AT?
WHOA!

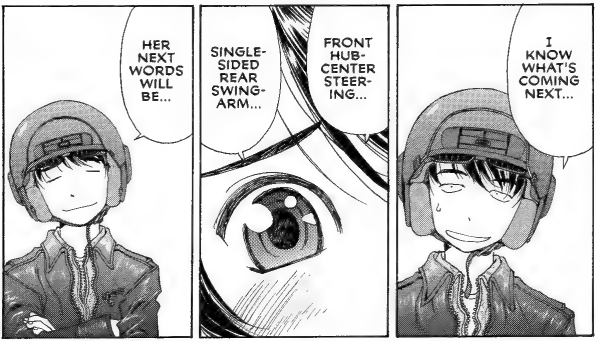
Gasp!
WHAT ARE *YOU* STARING AT?
ME?! YOU WERE, *TOO!!*
I WAS LOOKING *BELOW* THE SEAT LEVEL.
HOW ABOUT YOU?
M-ME, TOO!
AMAZ-ING! *ENGINES* MAKE HIM BLUSH.

CHAPTER 212

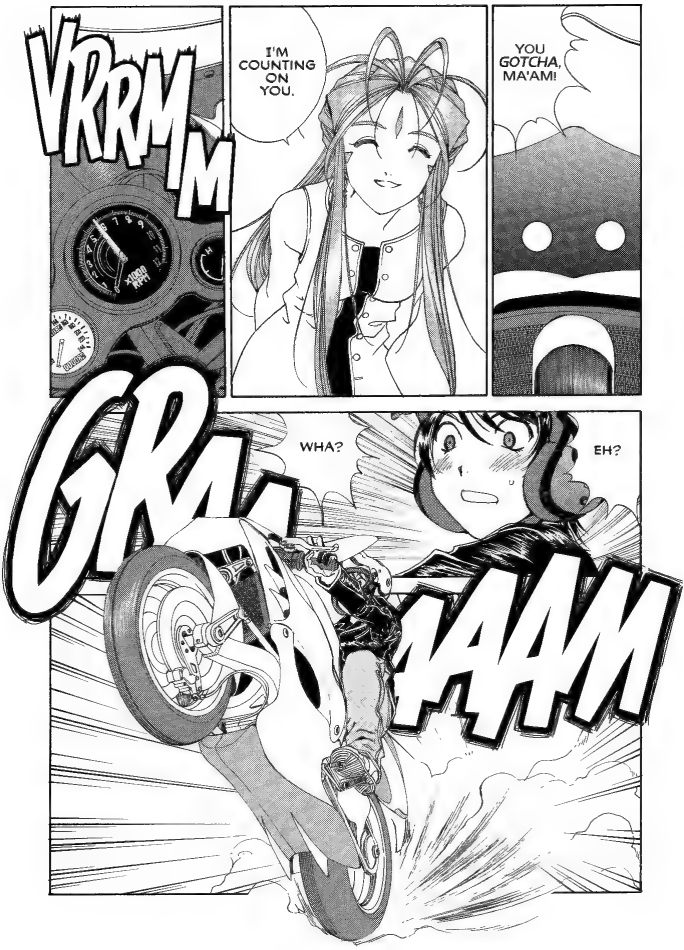
Feeling the Wind Together

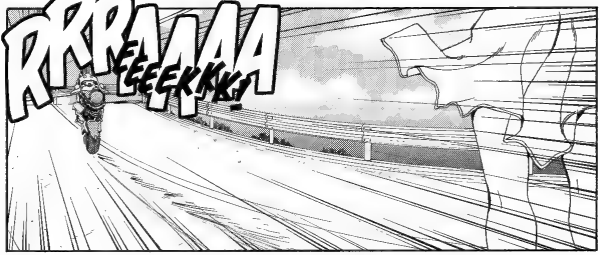
pant
gasp

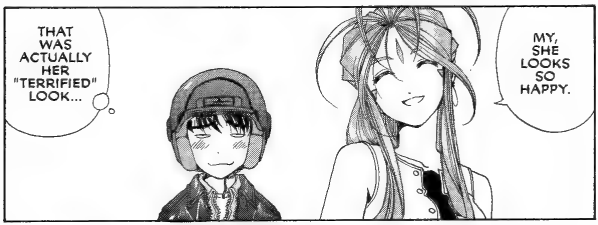

I SEE...
WOW...
OHH...


HER NEXT WORDS WILL BE...
SINGLE-SIDED REAR SWING-ARM...
FRONT HUB-CENTER STEER-ING...
I KNOW WHAT'S COMING NEXT...

WOULD YOU LET ME TRY IT OUT?
YES.
SURE!
I'LL ASK FOR YOU, OKAY?
ASK? ASK WHO?
CAN YOU PLEASE TAKE THIS LADY BACK...
...TO THE SHOP WE CAME FROM?

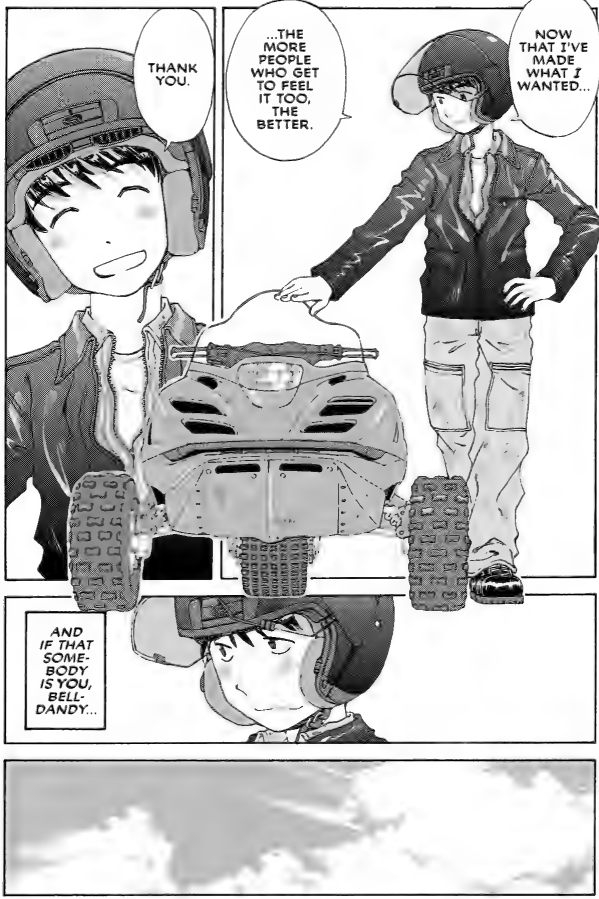

VRRMM
I'M COUNTING ON YOU.
YOU GOTCHA, MA'AM!
GRAAAM
WHA?
EH?

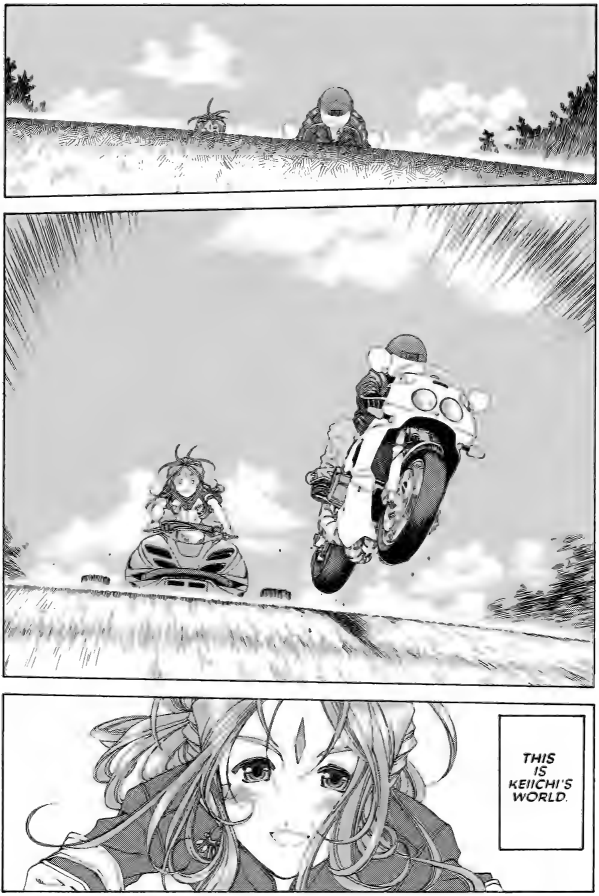

RRRAAAA
EEEEEEEKKK!!


THAT WAS ACTUALLY HER "TERRIFIED" LOOK...
MY, SHE LOOKS SO HAPPY.

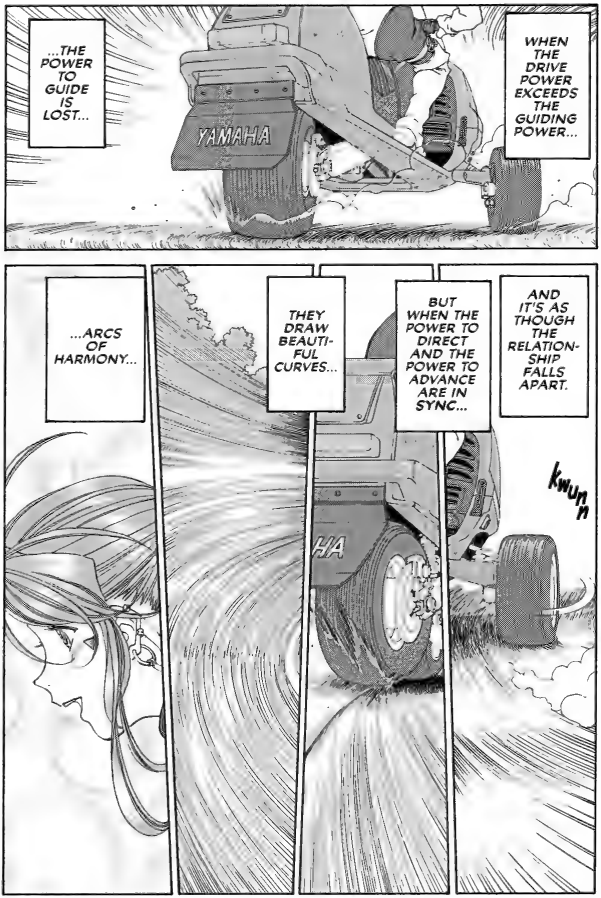
I WANT TO FEEL...
...WHY DO YOU WANT TO RIDE IT ALL OF A SUDDEN?
YEAH, THAT'S FINE, BUT...
THEN I'LL BORROW YOUR MACHINE, KEIICHI.

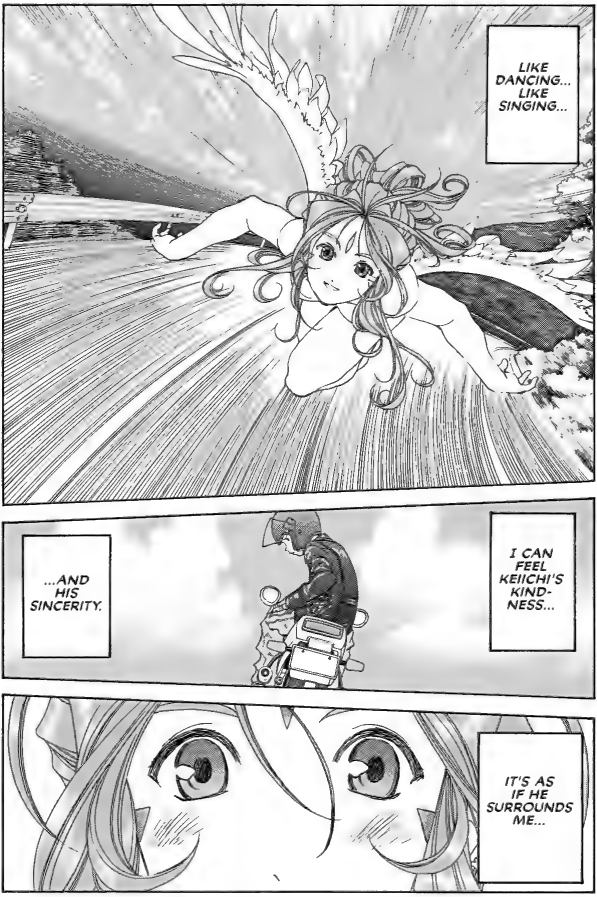
WITH MY OWN HANDS.
...THE WORLD YOU LONGED FOR.
NOT AT ALL... IT MAKES ME HAPPY TO HEAR THAT.
...DID I SAY SOME-THING WRONG?


NOW THAT I'VE MADE WHAT I WANTED...
...THE MORE PEOPLE WHO GET TO FEEL IT TOO, THE BETTER.
THANK YOU.
AND IF THAT SOME-BODY IS YOU, BELL-DANDY...

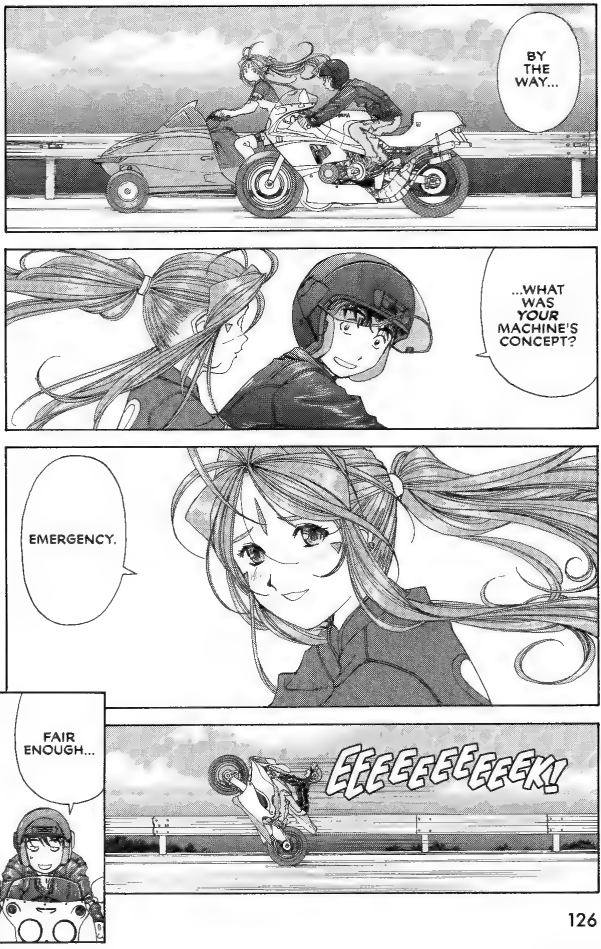

THIS IS KEIICHI'S WORLD.

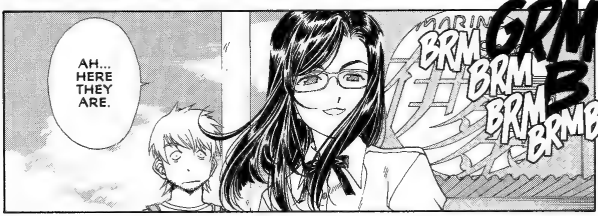
...THE FRONT TIRES GUIDE THE POWER TOWARD OUR DESTINATION.
THE REAR TIRE GIVES POWER TO ADVANCE.
YAMAHA
...THIS IS HOW HE TALKS WITH THE ROAD.

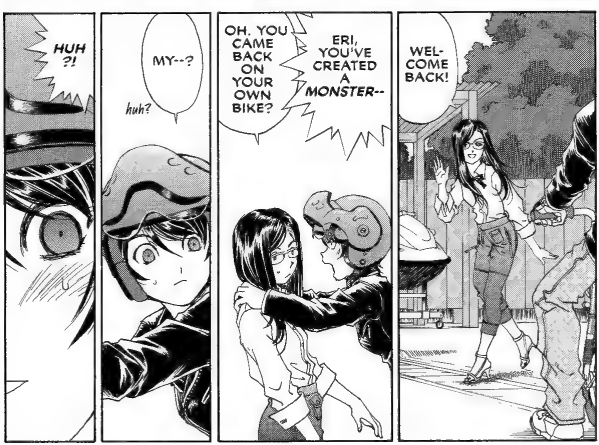

...THE POWER TO GUIDE IS LOST...
YAMAHA
WHEN THE DRIVE POWER EXCEEDS THE GUIDING POWER...
...ARCS OF HARMONY...
THEY DRAW BEAUTI-FUL CURVES...
BUT WHEN THE POWER TO DIRECT AND THE POWER TO ADVANCE ARE IN SYNC...
AND IT'S AS THOUGH THE RELATION-SHIP FALLS APART.
KWUN
HA


LIKE DANCING... LIKE SINGING...
I CAN FEEL KEIICHI'S KIND-NESS...
...AND HIS SINCERITY.
IT'S AS IF HE SURROUNDS ME...

YAMAHA


BY THE WAY...
...WHAT WAS *YOUR* MACHINE'S CONCEPT?
EMERGENCY.
FAIR ENOUGH...
EEEEEEEEEEEK!


AH... HERE THEY ARE.
BRM BRM
GRM BRM BRMB


HUH ?!
MY--?
huh?
OH. YOU CAME BACK ON YOUR OWN BIKE?
ERI, YOU'VE CREATED A MONSTER--
WEL-COME BACK!

NO... NO. IT CAN'T BE...
AH...
THIS TIME IT LOOKS...
...LIKE *REAL* TROUBLE...
BELL'S MAGIC TRICKS ARE *AMAZING*...

WELLLL...
HMMM...
--SO, HOW'D THE BATTLE GO...?
HUH?
I LOST.
...WELL, WHEN I THINK ABOUT IT, I BUILT SOMETHING THAT WASN'T EVEN A MOTOR-CYCLE...

...I'M GLAD THERE'S ONE MORE INTERESTING VEHICLE IN THIS WORLD.
NO, IT'S OKAY. MORE THAN WINNING OR LOSING...
IT WAS PLENTY OF FUN.
WHO CARES ABOUT THAT?
THAT MAKES ME HAPPIEST OF ALL.

HE GOT YOU THERE, DIDN'T HE?
YUP.
...
UM, BELL, DEAR ...?
?
CAN YOU ASK HER TO PAY THE BILL FOR ME?
I'M HAPPY TO.
OH... BY THE WAY, FUJIMI...
DON'T FORGET TO PAY ME FOR THE BIKE.

PLEASE!!
UM... UM...
NOW WOULD BE FINE.
HUH?!
OHHHH... OF *COURSE* I WILL.
TRAA-AALALA

HEY! WHERE ARE YOU GOING ?!
URGH...
BETTER GIVE IT UP, CHIHIRO.
SHE'S GOT MY BIKE KEY...
klik!
I'M BORROW-ING THIS, SKULD!
HEY!!
THE IGNITION IS THE OTHER BUTTON.

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OH MY GODDESS! Vol. 33
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I ran into a very timely act of cosplay (as Gainax's *Otaku no Video* put it in their study of how many "acts of cosplay" the average otaku had "committed" ^_^) at FanimeCon 2009 this last May in San Jose, CA. Every anime and manga con has its own local atmosphere of course, which is one of the great things about cons. And many (actually, nearly all) such cons are put together not by the industry or professional convention organizers, but by local fans, drawing their staff and strength from area clubs.

San Jose, in case you don't know, is the largest city in California's famous "Silicon Valley," and is at the lower end of San Francisco Bay; consequently, it is the ideal site for northern California's largest anime and manga convention, FanimeCon, which celebrated its fifteenth anniversary this year with as many as 16,000 people in attendance over a four-day weekend. And as you might guess, its roots lie in a number of local clubs, including Foothill Anime, "America's Most Beautiful Anime Club"—which, as its name might imply, is set amidst the Los Altos Hills.

Taking inspiration in part from medieval Japan, at Foothill College you will find massive cobblestone buttresses and the type of sloped, shingled roofs ninja love to run across, seventy (count them—seventy) varieties of bamboo, and an Azumaya meditation pavilion built by the students of the International College of Crafts and Arts in Toyama as a gift to the school; Foothill has been three times honored by the American Institute of Architects for its design. You can even intern from Foothill at NASA's nearby Ames Research Center, which controls the just-launched Kepler Space Telescope, the first satellite capable of detecting Earth-sized planets around different stars—you'll admit that's pretty cool.

After its first two years at Cal State Hayward, FanimeCon spent 1996, 1997, and 1998 at Foothill, during which time it increased its attendance almost by a factor of five, and acquired its first Japanese guest, GAINAX's executive director, Hiroyuki Yamaga. The reason FanimeCon had to leave Foothill eventually wasn't so much because it got big (19,000 people attend classes on campus), but because there's nowhere to spend the night, limiting the con to daytime events. I remember in 1998 having taken shelter from a rainstorm in the basketball court (where the dealer's room was set up!) and emerging as the clouds broke, with great beams of light coming down on the hills like the poster for Mr. Yamaga's film *The Wings of Honneamise* (also known as *Royal Space Force*) and saying, "I can't believe we're trading this next year for a hotel."

Back to the very aforementioned cosplay! These days, in 2009, FanimeCon is held at the San Jose Convention Center, but Mr. Yamaga is still its most honored guest, and he and other members of GAINAX attend every year (more details on that in vol. 2 of Dark Horse's *Neon Genesis Evangelion: The Shinji Ikari Raising Project*, out in September, together with a repeat of some of these exact same details ^_^). Sunday evening at this year's Fanime, GAINAX hosted a party at the Fairmont Hotel for the other guests and one hundred fans that were lucky enough to win an invitation at random. One of them was the cosplayer whose photo you see here, April Loughridge.

We had both been waiting in line for a long time to ask *Gurren Lagann* key animator Hirokazu Kojima to do a sketch, when suddenly I turned around and noticed that the person behind me had Goddess marks. Then I noticed her checkered overalls, and came to the unmistakable realization I was witnessing a Racing Belldandy cosplay—a type of Bell-cos I had never seen before.

Later, I got the story from April: "I am currently one of three directors for an after-school anime club for teens called the Community Culture Club. The kids meet every week and every year they raise money to go to two conventions: FanimeCon and Ani-Jam Fresno. The goal of this club is to provide a safe environment where teens can hang out and have fun with fellow anime fans. I first started to cosplay in 2004 when five students (including myself) helped found a club called Anime/Obsession at Emporia State University, Emporia, KS. This club is still growing to this day and I take the time to visit as often as I can.

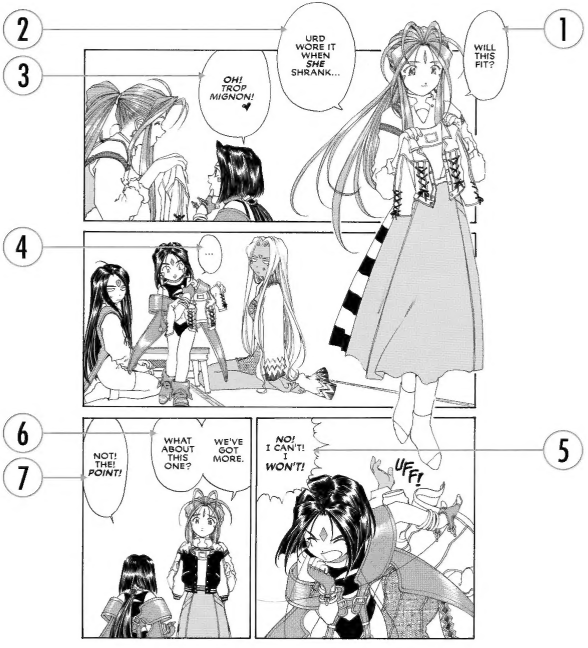
"I first cosplayed in this Belldandy outfit at FanimeCon 2009. The inspiration for this cosplay comes from my husband's love for mechanical stuff, and how he tries to teach me as much as he can about keeping my car in shape. I love Belldandy and all her outfits. Even the ones from the eighties. (I think I have cosplayed most of her outfits though.)"

Well, as the racing Belldandy is back on the track in vol. 33, I counted it lucky that I was able to run into April and take these shots. At the time you see these pics, we still had about another forty minutes to go in line. By the way, when I finally got to Mr. Kojima, he seemed a little disappointed that the character I wanted him to draw was Kittan. ^_^

—CGH

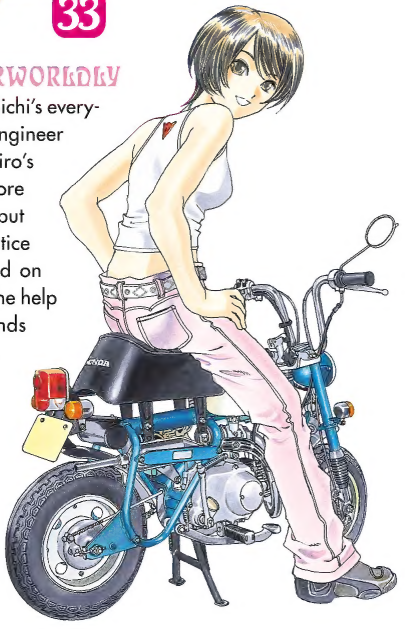
STOP! This is the back of the book!

This manga collection is translated into English, but arranged in right-to-left reading format to maintain the artwork's visual orientation as originally drawn and published in Japan. If you've never read comics this way before, take a look at the diagram below to give yourself an idea of how to go about it. Basically, you'll be starting in the upper right-hand corner, and will read each word balloon and panel moving right-to-left. It may take a little getting used to, but you should get the hang of it very quickly. Have fun! If this is the millionth manga you've read this way, never mind. ^_^



Oh My Goddess!

ああっ女神さまっ 33



DESPITE THE OTHERWORLDLY situations he's gotten into, Keiichi's everyday joy is still found as an engineer and mechanic. And as Chihiro's training retreat by the seashore continues, the two of them put that shared passion into practice by building two bikes based on different philosophies, with the help of her old high-school friends Eri and Tasuga—plus (or maybe minus) the "help" of Urd and Skuld!

Oh My Goddess! is the longest-running manga in English, and the inspiration for the recent anime TV series!

DARK HORSE MANGA
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